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COMMENT OF THE DAY

The Colonies

BRITISH politicians and newspapers this last week have resurrected an old, but interesting subject—the holding of a "Colonial Congress" at regular intervals, designed to bring together non-official members of colonial legislatures and to promote a stronger sense of "active participating membership" in the Commonwealth. The conception was first put forward nine years ago. Several variations of the main idea have been advanced from time to time, one being that there should be regular meetings of Colonial leaders (not only of indigenous races) interested in some special aspect of affairs—agriculture, education, the financing of new industries, and so on. Hongkong cannot claim to have displayed a lively appreciation of the potentialities of a "Colonial Congress." From time to time tentative suggestions have been put forward that the Colony should have a "spokesman" in the House of Commons through whom Hongkong's own problems could be more forcibly explained in public. But this proposition, while attractive, can scarcely be considered feasible.

It has been suggested by one Member of Parliament that an imposing obstacle to the "Colonial Congress" idea is the "depressing lack of public concern in Britain." It is, unfortunately, true that the public at home are neither particularly well informed nor eagerly interested in colonial affairs. Nevertheless, the charge of apathy is chiefly to be laid at the doors of the colonies themselves. Moreover, the colonies display no vital concern over colonial problems as a whole; they confine attention to their own domestic troubles and have so far shown no inclination to interrelate problems, though in many cases these are of common origin, and could either be resolved or at least alleviated by a common formula. The fact is we are a long way from the stage of Commonwealth fair shares where consideration would be devoted to the interests of all units of the Colonial empire, rather than those of individual segments. The creation of a "Colonial Congress" could, however, be an important first step towards this objective.

Asian Conference Decision About To Be Reached

BIG THREE MINISTERS SEEK NEW INSTRUCTIONS

Berlin, Feb. 17.

The three Western foreign ministers today were reported to be consulting their governments for new instructions concerning an Asian conference with Communist China, according to a reliable source here tonight.

This morning the Big Four met in restricted session to discuss the first point on the Soviet agenda dealing with measures to reduce international tension and the calling of a five-power conference with Communist China.

The source stated that the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Vyacheslav Molotov, had presented new proposals concerning a conference on Asian problems with the Peking government and that the discussions had now reached the stage where the Western ministers had to consult their governments for new instructions.

This morning's session was the fifth restricted session of the present Berlin conference and reports stated that it appeared that the issues to be discussed with Communist China would be Korea and Southeast Asia, particularly Indo-China.

Reliable sources stated that the Soviet proposal to discuss with Communist China measures to reduce overall international tension would most likely be dropped.

The thorny problem of the convening of the conference still remained to be settled, it was stated.

At the second restricted meeting, Geneva was proposed as the conference site and this did not meet with any objections from Mr. Molotov.

Today, however, the most important point at issue appeared to be that created by the Soviet Foreign Minister's insistence on having Communist China placed on an equal footing with the four other powers.

PROGRESS MADE
The fact that the foreign ministers were now discussing various points of the draft under examination was an indication, reliable sources said, that constructive progress was being made towards a meeting with Communist China.

As the Berlin conference drew to its close today, the Far Eastern issue appeared to be the only one on which agreement had been reached.

French quarters, led by M. Georges Bidault, the Foreign Minister, are anxious that this point on the Big Four agenda should not be dropped and today it was reported that a "precise formula" had been introduced in the discussions on Communist China.

Informed quarters said that the "precise formula" was vague enough to permit the American Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, to say that there would be no "five-power conference" with Communist China and Mr. Molotov to say just the opposite.

Both Mr. Dulles and M. Bidault were consulting their respective governments, it was reported, and this was taken to indicate that a decision, one way or the other, was about to be reached.

It was pointed out today that, so far, the Big Four had not taken any initiative in closing the debates in Berlin though Mr. Dulles was stated to be determined to leave on Thursday since he has an appointment on that evening with the West German Chancellor, Dr. Konrad Adenauer, at the Wahn Airport, near Bonn.

It was also reported that Mr. Dulles had promised President Eisenhower to be in Washington on Saturday as the President was planning to leave very shortly for a vacation in the west of the United States.

Meanwhile, French circles today showed confidence in the outcome of the Far Eastern talks held in secret this morning and pointed to a success which would be announced tomorrow.

—France-Press.

French Speed Claim

Paris, Feb. 17.

France cautiously claimed today to have produced the first plane to take off by itself and break the sound barrier in level flight.

The event occurred last December when a prototype of France's latest jet fighter, the rocket-powered "Espanon" SO-0028, piloted by Charles Goujon, took off and later flew at a speed of more than Mach 1 at an altitude of 13,000 metres (32,808 feet).

Previously, planes cracking the sound barrier either did it in dives or were taken up to high altitudes by heavier planes, such as the American rockets launched from a B-29, French officials said.

An official of the Societe Nationale de Constructions Aeronautiques du Sud-Ouest, makers of the plane, said today: "To my belief this is the first time a plane has ever cracked the sound barrier in those conditions." —United Press.

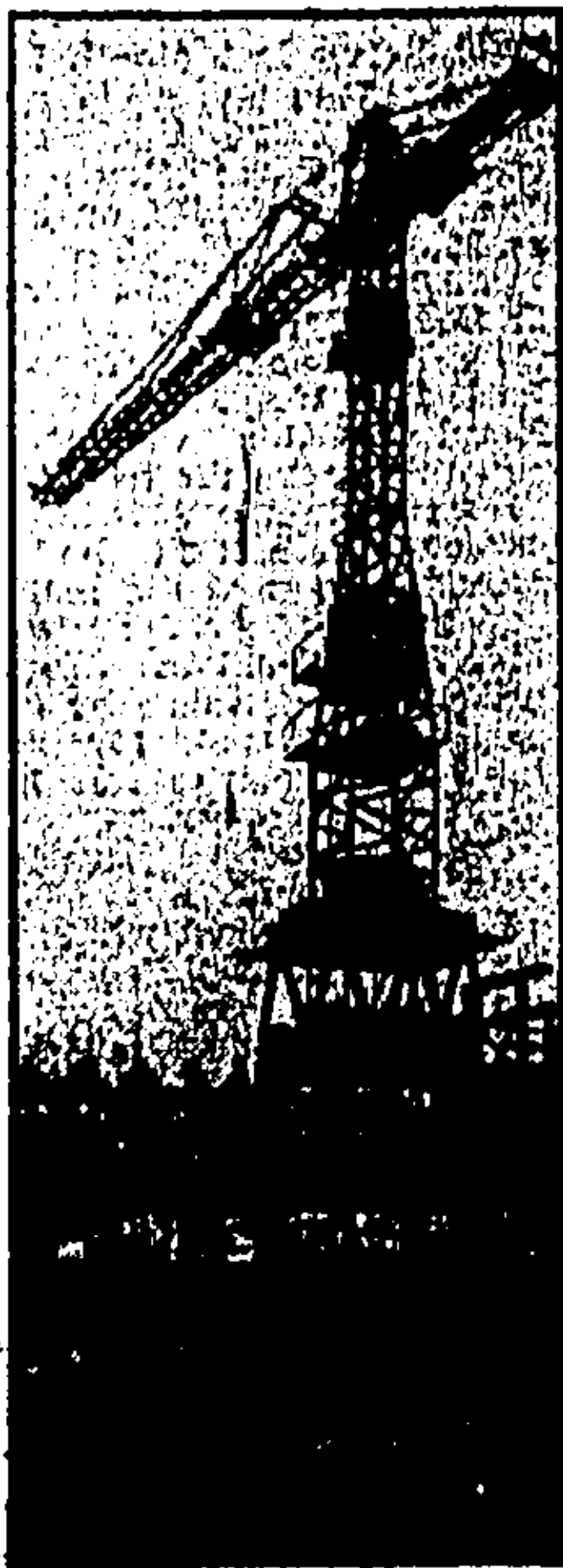
Woman Absconds With \$5300,000

Singapore, Feb. 18.

Singapore police have been investigating reports that a middle-aged woman absconded with more than \$5300,000 in money.

The woman was reported to have left by air for Japan with her young daughter a few days ago. It is believed that more than 100 people, including housewives and lawyers, are complaining in the court today.

New Sight In London



A new sight in the city of London is this giant crane, 170 feet high and weighing 215,000 lbs. The crane, which comes from Germany, has been erected in the middle of a site for a new office block. The crane is operated by one man from a cabin halfway up the tower and is powered by electricity. Six tons can be lifted at a radius of 13 feet from the base, or 1½ tons at a radius of 82 feet. —London Express Photograph.

Sicilian Rioters Killed

Rome, Feb. 17.

The Communist Party called a nationwide "demonstration of mourning and protest" against the government of Premier Mario Scelba tonight after four Sicilians were killed and nine wounded in a clash with police.

The clash occurred in Mussumeli, a town of 13,800 in Central Sicily, island of Signor Scelba's birth, and had no connection with the nationwide series of strikes and demonstrations called by the Communists in hopes of unseating Signor Scelba's government.

But Signor Scelba goes before the Senate tomorrow for confirmation as Premier and the Reds moved swiftly to block approval of the man who kept their Party in check during the seven years he was Minister of the Interior in the Cabinet of Alcide de Gasperi.

Signor Scelba himself called an emergency Cabinet meeting tonight to cope with the strikes and hot Red efforts to turn the Sicilian incident into vicious anti-government propaganda. But the Communist Party, second largest outside the Soviet, moved swiftly.

The 13 victims of the Mussumeli incident were transported after the police fired tear gas in an effort to break up their demands for a better water supply.

One boy and three elderly women were killed and 100 were injured. The police fired tear gas in an effort to break up their demands for a better water supply.

The Queen Mother's US Visit

Two Engagements Announced

Washington, Feb. 17.

Mr. James Hagerly, White House Press Secretary, announced today that the Queen Mother would attend Columbia University's Charter Day convocation in New York on October 31 during her forthcoming autumn visit to the United States.

On November 3, she will attend the annual dinner of the English-Speaking Union in New York, he said.

A London announcement from Clarence House said the Queen Mother will also formally accept the King George VI memorial fund raised by the English-Speaking Union for scholarships for British students at American universities.

Apart from the two engagements announced tonight, other plans are yet to be completed. Her Majesty's stay at the White House will be from November 4-6.

According to the present arrangements, neither Princess Margaret nor any other member of the Royal family will accompany the Queen Mother. It is possible she will fly over the Atlantic, though the question of transport has yet to be decided.

It will be the Queen Mother's second visit to the United States. The first was in June 1939 with King George VI when she was the guest of President Roosevelt.

Columbia University was founded under charter from King George II in 1754. The American King George VI memorial fund was launched in November 1952 under the sponsorship of the English-Speaking Union of the United States with the object of raising half a million dollars. —China Mail Special.

PRINCESS ALSO?

Washington, Feb. 17.

The proposed visit to the United States of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother made the front-page headlines here today, and Washington newspapers speculated whether Princess Margaret would accompany her mother.

The Times Herald said Princess Margaret had wanted for a number of years to visit the United States, "and it is believed her mother's visit would provide an excellent opportunity for her to fulfill her wish."

The paper said although the decision on Princess Margaret's coming "would be considered a private family matter, it is believed that it would receive the British Cabinet's blessing, especially since every opportunity is being taken to exploit the Princess's goodwill value."

"The Princess also has many friends in the United States, who would work to make the trip as extensive as possible." —Reuter.

CANADA'S INVITATION

Ottawa, Feb. 17.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has been invited to visit Canada after visiting the United States, but no reply from her has yet been received. It was announced tonight.

The office of the Prime Minister announced that an invitation had been extended but "no reply has yet been received."

Emile, the Secretary of State, Mr. J. W. Picken, said the Queen Mother would be "very welcome" if she came to Canada in conjunction with her autumn visit to Washington.

Queen Elizabeth and the late King George VI toured Canada in 1939 on the eve of World War II.

Motorist's Mean Act

Oklahoma, City, Feb. 17.

Gerald Weldemann, a student at Oklahoma City University, rides a motorcycle despite a broken leg. Yesterday he told the Police that his crutches fell off and he stopped to pick them up. At the same time, a passing motorist stopped, jumped out of his convertible and picked up the crutches. Weldemann was about to thank the man when the latter tossed the crutches in his car and drove off. —United Press.

Village Massacre By Reds

1,400 Inhabitants Mown Down

Hanoi, Feb. 17.

The French authorities tonight announced that Communists ridding the Vietnamese Catholic village of Than Thuong, 40 miles southeast of Hanoi, slaughtered an estimated 1,400 inhabitants, including the village priest, in a machine-gun massacre.

The Reds burned down and dynamited the 2,000-inhabitant village of Than Thuong in the staunchly Catholic Thai Binh Province after machine-gunning the population, the French said. Only 600 villagers who worked in the surrounding rice fields escaped the violence.

"Oradour" was a French village obliterated by the Nazis in World War II.

The Communist raiders came disguised as peaceful peasants, their automatic weapons skillfully camouflaged in flowing garb and baskets. They surged on to the Catholic militia, mowing them down with sub-machinegun fire, according to survivors.

CHURCH DESTROYED

The Communists seized Father Anh, head of the Catholic community, broke into the church and set it afire. They also destroyed the local orphanage and school.

The bodies of the slain were thrown into mass graves before the rebels withdrew. The French authorities reported. The number of slain is being put at the 1,400 mark.

A French mobile column reached the scene yesterday and immediately began organizing relief for the survivors.

Meanwhile the French garrison in Dien Bien Phu launched another heavily armed reconnaissance attack against rebels in the area. The new attack was a costly one, as enemy Vietminh troops apparently slipped away in the face of savage barrages from the Dien Bien Phu gun emplacements. The French column retired safely to rejoin the garrison. —United Press.

3000-Mile Tow Contemplated

Singapore, Feb. 17.

The owners of the Indian ship Asha which has been lying in Singapore for the past 26 days with engine trouble are now trying to find a vessel to tow her 3,000 miles to Japan, it was learned here today.

The Asha has a cargo of 5,000 tons of scrap to deliver and her owners believed that it would be cheaper to spend \$100,000 towing her than to let her go under her own steam, since she used too much coal.

Meanwhile the ship's crew from the master down have refused to quit, claiming that the ship could not stand up to the full force of the northeast monsoon in the China sea.

The ship's agents, the Singapore Shipping Association and the United Government, are now trying to persuade the crew to quit. —United Press.

Savage Battle With Mau Mau Terrorists

Nairobi, Feb. 17.

Troops locked with bugle-blowing Mau Mau terrorists today in one of the sharpest battles of Kenya's unofficial war.

A terrorist band 200 strong swooped on the little town of Thika, 35 miles north of here, during the night. After a night of carnage, police and troops arrived and beat the terrorists back in house-to-house fighting, then pursued them in a running battle into the countryside. The terrorists used rifles and long-bladed panga knives. They attacked the town shortly after midnight, blowing bugles and firing their rifles.

The Europeans shuttered their homes and grabbed rifles as the terrorists moved through the town. An African burman at the Thika Golf Club was dragged screaming from his bar and hacked to death.

The police said 19 terrorists were known to have been killed in the following night but the final death toll probably would rise above 50. Police at nearby Kandara police post were prevented from going to the aid of beleaguered Thika this morning by another gang of Mau Mau who stormed the post in broad daylight.

BLAZING HOMES

An African policeman was killed and two European officers were wounded before the terrorists were driven off. As darkness fell, flames from blazing homes in Thika lit the way for police and troops as they moved out of the town in pursuit of the retreating terrorists.

Unconfirmed reports reaching here said other Mau Mau gangs had struck at vital installations throughout Central Kenya today, notably at Fort Hall where they did considerable damage to an Asian housing project near the power station.

Today's attacks, which appeared to be well co-ordinated and organized, were among the biggest since the Mau Mau first began operating two years ago. The attacks followed the sentencing to death last week of a Mau Mau leader, known as "General China", for conspiring with armed terrorists. "General China" was captured after being wounded in a skirmish last year. —United Press.

Suit Filed Against Chaplin

Hollywood, Feb. 17.

A suit to force comedian Charles Chaplin to post security for support payments on behalf of his 10-year-old daughter, Carol Ann Barry, was filed in the Superior Court today.

The actor, said he was never returning to the United States.

Mr. Chaplin has been paying for the girl's upkeep since a Superior Court ordered that he support the child he was accused of fathering by his former protégée, Joan Barry. —United Press.

Police said they expected no clashes between them. —Reuter.

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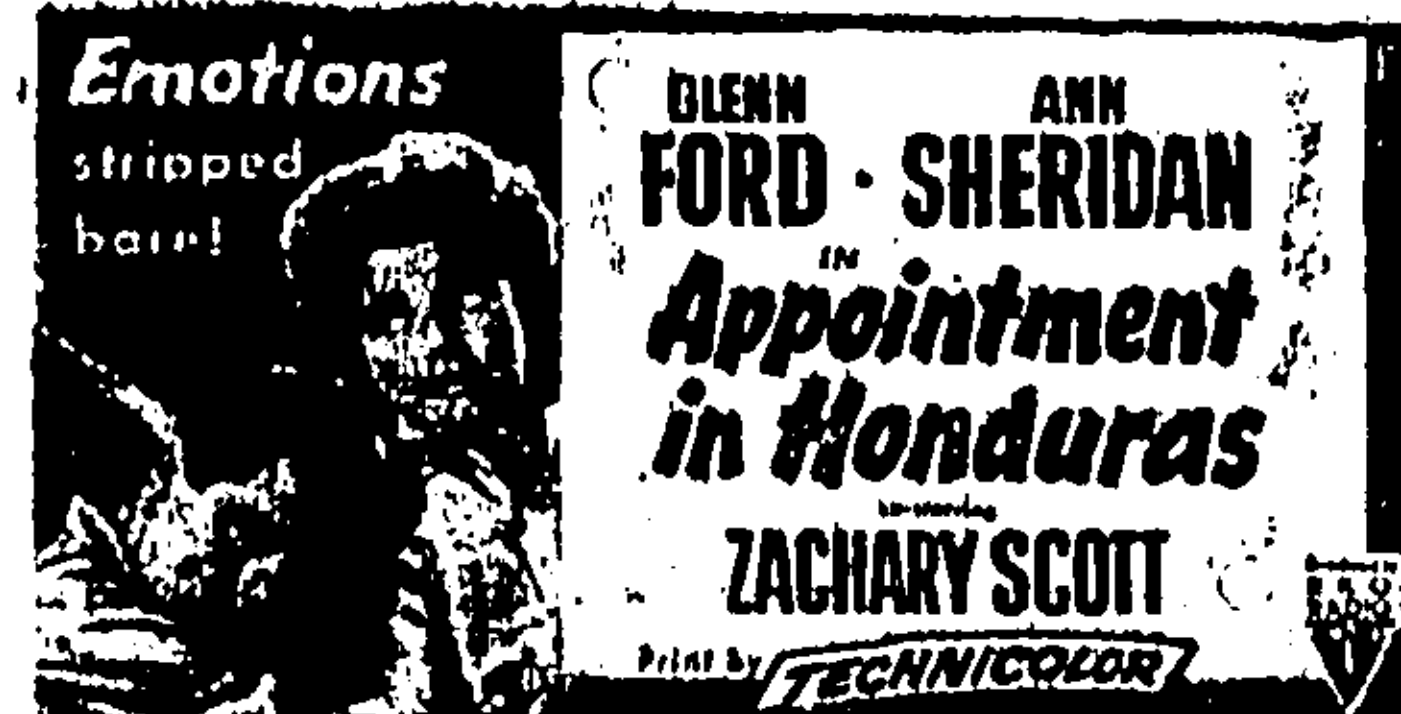


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CLASH OVER US ARMS FOR SPAIN

Hostile Questions Asked In House Of Commons

London, Feb. 17.

The Minister of State, Mr Selwyn Lloyd, today defended American shipments of arms to Spain against sharp hostile Labour questions in the House of Commons.

He assured the House the arms could not be used against Britain or France.

At the same time, the Foreign Under-Secretary, Mr A. D. Dods-Parker, said the British Ambassador in Madrid has been instructed to take up the matter of the British Vice-Consul at Cadiz not being allowed to attend a smuggling trial involving a British ship in the Straits of Gibraltar.

Housewives INSIST On Paying MORE!

The shopping habits of British housewives are puzzling their grocers. Women are demanding "quality" goods and they insist on paying higher prices. They have lost the pre-war custom of going from shop to shop to save pennies, according to London reports.

The grocer's dilemma was explained by Major E. K. Edwards, vice-president of the National Federation of Wholesale Grocers, at a conference in London last night.

He held up two tins of beans. One, a large tin (10 ounces) sells at 7½d. The other, half the size, costs 10d. There is practically no difference in taste or quality. Why does the housewife generally choose?

"Why the smaller tin, costing double," said Major Edwards, "I gave another example of sardine buying."

Two types are on sale in the same shop. One is from Ministry stocks, selling at 6½d, or 7½d, a tin. The other, a bristling, costs 1s. 10d. But it sells.

"That is the sort of thing that puzzles the grocer," said Major Edwards. "Of course, the bristling is packed in olive oil, but that should not tempt a housewife to pay 1s. 10d. more."

The reason for all this, he thinks, is that many wives with jobs have more money, less time.

Is there a snob value on high price goods?

NO MARKET LEFT

Major Edwards would not say, but he did say that in some cases where brands of quality foods offered at modest prices had not sold well, he advised the manufacturers to "put a 2d. on."

The pursuit of quality was making it hard for manufacturers who catered for a cheap market before the war. "Now," he said, "they are having difficulty in finding a market at all." Most noticeable goods in this category were sausages, jams and soups.

There is another indication of changing shopping habits. Stocks of tinned milk are piling up so heavily that some manufacturers are cutting down production. This, said Major Edwards, was a result of the higher standard of living and the distribution of fresh milk in schools.



Labour Member of Parliament Mr Eric Fletcher brought up the arms question by asking if the Government would make "presentations" to the United States about supplying American tanks to Spain before British, French and other North Atlantic Treaty needs were fully met.

"No," Mr Lloyd replied. "We know the United States Government have fully in mind the requirements of their NATO allies."

Mr Fletcher retorted it was "obnoxious" and "perverse" of the United States to supply tanks to Spain at a time when France and other NATO countries still were anxious for them.

Mr Lloyd: The supply of American armaments to these other countries had a considerable time to develop. He added that under the United States-Spanish agreement there were very definite limitations on the use to which Spain could put the arms.

AGAINST GIBRALTAR?

Labour MP, Mr Philip Noel-Baker, a former Minister, asked if they would be used against Britain in Gibraltar and against France in Morocco.

"It is absolutely clear that the assistance given in this way could not be used for the kind of purpose suggested," Mr Lloyd replied.

Mr Dods-Parker told another Labour Member, Mr Hector Hughes, he was aware Spain had refused visas to Mr Percy Knight, national organizer of the National Union of Seamen and a member of the Labour Party Executive, and to Mr Saul Rose, Secretary of the Labour Party's International Department.

But he replied "no" when he was asked if he had inquired why the visas were refused, and that by international practice no sovereign state was required to give a reason for a refusal.

NO RECIPROcity

He also told Mr Hughes there was no reciprocity.

A Conservative MP, Mr Bernard Braine, asked about the Spanish seizure of the British vessel *Serve* last month in the Mediterranean on a charge of smuggling. Mr Dods-Parker replied a Cadiz Court would hand down a verdict on February 25.

"We must await the verdict," Mr Dods-Parker said. "Meanwhile, I should inform the House that Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Cadiz was not permitted to attend the trial."

He added the British Ambassador in Madrid had been instructed to take up the matter.

TOW IN ANY SHIP

Mr Braine said the Spaniards justified their seizure by claiming that they could tow in any ship of 100 tons or less in the Straits of Gibraltar.

This, he charged, constituted interference with Her Majesty's mails and he asked whether the "unpleasant representation" would be made to Spain at the appropriate time.

Mr Dods-Parker said the Government would have to wait the final decision of where the ship was when seized.

Report On Japan's Future Was "Optimistic"

Washington, Feb. 17.

The United States Ambassador to Japan, Mr John Allison, was reported to have given a Congressional committee today a "basically optimistic" report on Japan's future.

The Ambassador, who arrived in Washington last week for consultations, appeared at a private session of a Far East sub-committee of the House of Representatives to report on the economic and political situation in Japan.

The sub-committee Chairman, Mr Walter Judd, (Republican Minnesota) later quoted the Ambassador as telling that Japan was now taking "a more realistic" approach to her economic difficulties.

He added: "Allison is basically optimistic, as our Government is, with respect to Japan's future and the interests of the free world and ourselves in that part of the world."

The Chairman said discussions had included such subjects as Japanese rearmament and defence problems, the temper of the Japanese people on economic and political and other problems confronting them, proposals for a Pacific defence pact and Japan's relations with Korea, China and the United States.

"We are quite aware of the grave difficulties facing the Japanese people because of the basic shortages of natural resources plus the devastation of war and debilitation of economy," Mr Judd said.

"The Japanese people are recovering from the shock of what they went through and they are regaining their traditional fortitude and willingness to do what is necessary to solve their problems," Mr Judd said.

Leaders of the Big Three pools firms — Vernons, Copes, and Littlewoods — met in secret with their advisers in a London hotel until the small hours of the morning, working out details of their plan.

An official said: "We send out in the region of 10,000,000 coupons every week."

'NO CHANCES'

At the late-night meeting the pools chiefs were deciding on the final wording of the ballot paper to be sent out, asking punters if they are satisfied with the way the pools are run.

Mr Grenfell, a chief executive of Littlewoods, who had already spent nearly 12 hours in conference during the day, said: "We will have everything ready by the week-end."

"The final form is to be submitted to solicitors to make certain that we have not committed a breach of privilege. We are going to leave nothing to chance."

COMMENCING TUESDAY, FEB. 23

at the PRINCESS THEATRE

Crown Princess Has Daughter

Luxembourg, Feb. 17.

Crown Princess Josephine-Charlotte of Luxembourg gave birth to a daughter, a Court communiqué announced today.

The baby Princess will be named Maria, the communiqué said. It added that "the mother and the baby were doing well."

US Considering Anti-Depression Measures

Washington, Feb. 17.

President Eisenhower said today if employment does not pick up next month, he will consider taking emergency measures, including raising personal income tax exemptions, to make sure the nation does not fall into a depression.

Publish Accounts? Pool Promoters To Ask Their Clients

Britain's leading football pool promoters announced they will ballot their clients on the Bill calling for publication of their accounts, according to latest reports from London.

Ballot forms will be sent out in their next mailing. The promoters pledged themselves to act according to the result of the ballot.

The announcement was made by the Pool Promoters' Association after a meeting in London. This meeting, its statement said, was called to consider the Pool Betting Bill, sponsored by Mr Fred Mulley, Socialist M.P. for Park, Stamford, which is due for resumed discussion in the Commons.

The promoters said that, contrary to Mr Mulley's claim that his Bill was supported by the majority of the 17,000,000 who bet on football pools, they had only received three letters in support of the Bill from clients.

"There is, therefore, no evidence that the Bill has the support of pool clients," the statement continued.

DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

"Clients have suggested that the pool promoters should state their case, and invite their clients to vote on the question. It appears to the promoters that this is in accordance with democratic principles, and in their next mailing they will invite all clients to vote."

The promoters added that they would appoint chartered accountants as "rulers" and "unconditionally undertake" to act in accordance with the ballot.

Stassen Speaks On Korea's Development

Seoul, Feb. 17.

The US Foreign Operations Administrator, Mr Harold Stassen, told the press today he believed the Republic of Korea, even if deprived of her northern states, would still be economically strong.

He said Korea had many resources and a hard-working population. He gave the example of West Germany to support his argument.

Mr Stassen was speaking at a press conference on the \$200 million aid programme to Korea.

He stressed the need to develop railways, coal mines and local industrial production in Korea.

He added that Korea would have to spend a large amount of old dollars in consumer goods from abroad to prevent inflation.

Mr Stassen is leaving tomorrow for Taipei. — France-Press.

Canada's Atomic Pile Working

Ottawa, Feb. 17.

The atomic pile at Chalk River factory is now working again after two years inactivity due to an atomic information package, said Defence Production Minister Clarence Decatur Howe tonight.

This is the first occasion on which an atomic reactor had been dismantled and rebuilt, he added. — France-Press.

O'Daniel Has Plans For Training French Union Forces

Washington, Feb. 17.

Lieutenant-General John W. O'Daniel will leave Honolulu shortly for Indo-China to take up the position of chief U.S. military representative. He will take with him detailed plans as to how U.S. training officers can help French training teams in Indo-China to train forces of the three Associated States; it was learned authoritatively today.

These American training officers have had experience training Greek, Yugoslav and South Korean troops since World War II and U.S. officials believe these officers will be able to give a much-needed stability to the French union forces.

The Administration assured Congressional leaders the U.S. had no intention of undertaking direct intervention in the fighting in Indo-China.

Reliable United States sources said today the French Government has agreed that Lieutenant-General John W. O'Daniel could leave for Indo-China shortly as chief United States military representative there.

General O'Daniel would confer with the French High Command in Indo-China about the National Defence Department's offer to participate with the French in training the forces of the Associated States.

He is now busy in Honolulu finalizing details for his departure for Indo-China. General O'Daniel is expected to leave for Indo-China within the next seven days. He should arrive there in time to confer with the French Defence Minister, M. Rene Pleven, and the Chief of the General Staff, General Paul Ely.

He will take with him detailed plans as to how United States military training in Indo-China could help the French training teams in Indo-China to train forces of the three Associated States.

But the Defence Department did not intend taking direction of training of local forces in Indo-China from the French. The Department believed, however, that the know-how acquired by United States training experts in Greece and Korea could be very useful in helping the French to train these forces.

Admiral Radford yesterday reassured Congressional leaders the United States did not intend undertaking direct intervention in the fighting in Indo-China but there was the utmost necessity to do everything short of that to prevent South-East Asia from falling a victim to Communist aggression. — United Press.



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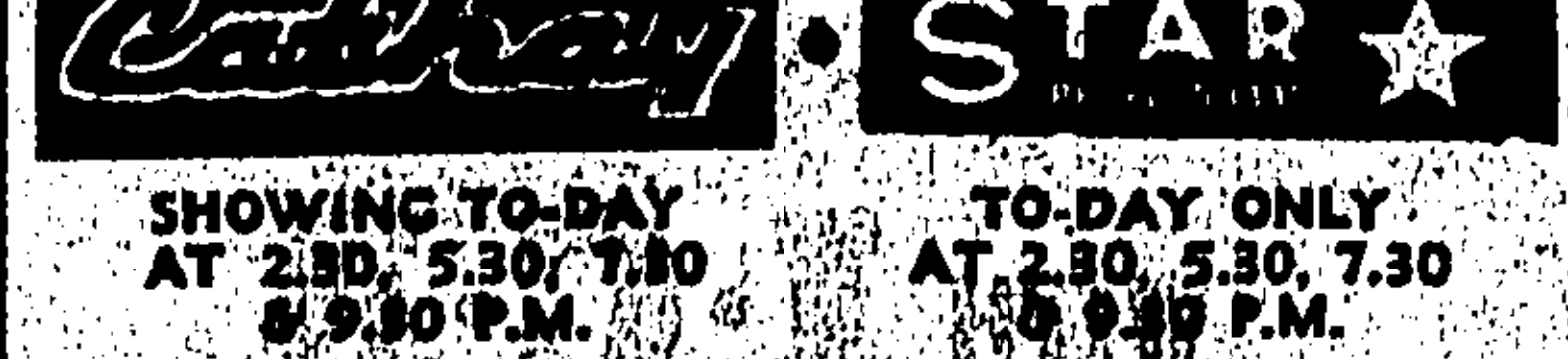


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EIGHTH ARMY ALERTED IN KOREA

Rhee Government's Threat To Interfere With Departure Of Indians

Seoul, Feb. 18.

The U.S. Eighth Army stood ready today to halt any South Korean interference with the departure of Indian troops for home as the Republic Government showed no signs of backing down from its latest threat.

The Rhee government has said it will "keep" Indian troops in Korea unless they guarantee the welfare of 76 anti-Red Korean former prisoners who chose to go to neutral nations. These men are now en route to India by ship.

General Maxwell Taylor yesterday told the South Koreans he would brook no interference with Indian troop movements and the Eighth Army would "deal appropriately with any interference to the discharge of those duties."

A similar South Korean threat to use force against the Indians drew American wrath after Dr. Syngman Rhee said it would take "some action" if the Indians did not release anti-Red prisoners from neutral stockades.

US To Compile Writings Of Franklin

Philadelphia, Feb. 17. A vast, 15-year-project to gather, edit, and publish all the known papers of Benjamin Franklin was announced here by the American Philosophical Society and Yale University.

The project has been made possible by a grant from Life Magazine.

The announcement was made jointly by Mr. Owen Roberts, president of the 204-year-old society, founded by Franklin himself, and by Mr. Whitney Griswold, president of Yale.

The edition will be the most inclusive ever published of the writings and papers of the American scientist, philosopher and statesman.

It will also be one of the largest editorial ventures in the history of United States book publishing.

The venture will cost more than 600,000 dollars (\$215,000 sterling). The society has already spent 250,000 dollars (\$90,000 sterling) in the past 20 years assembling Franklin items for its own collection.

The editorial work, under the editorship of Dr. Leonard Labaree, Farnham Professor of History at Yale, is expected to run to 25 or 30 volumes.—China Mail Special.

Defence Minister, Admiral Sohn. There was no immediate reaction from the government and none was expected until high-level officials had conferred with President Rhee.

The ROK Provost Marshal, General Won Tong Duk, who delayed signing of the truce last June by releasing more than 27,000 anti-Red Korean prisoners from South Korean stockades on President Rhee's orders, opened the campaign against the Indian withdrawal three days ago.

COULD DO LITTLE

He was backed yesterday by the Foreign Minister, Pyun Yung Tue, who nevertheless admitted the ROK government could do little but "express disappointment" if American troops did protect the Indians.

In the meantime, the Indian troopship Jalapal was scheduled to arrive at Incheon on Friday morning and an advance Indian baggage party was set to journey to the port by train to begin loading operations.

About 2,000 Indian troops still remain in the neutral zone. The Indians also were scheduled to turn over 18 prisoners to the U.N. Command today.

Jet Services To South America

Bogota, Feb. 17. A spokesman for the British Overseas Airways Corporation said today that the airline plan to establish jet liner service between all South American capitals and between South America and Europe.

BOAC's general manager for Latin America and manager for Panama, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua arrived from Rio de Janeiro to discuss plans for the new service.

British "Comet" jets would be used in the proposed service.—United Press.

Advice By Phone

London, Feb. 17.

A Baptist Church Minister has begun an "advice on the telephone" service because he believes many people are too shy to seek a personal interview on spiritual or domestic matters.

The Rev. W. Peter West, of north-east London, treats all calls in strict confidence and callers remain anonymous.

Women who wish to discuss problems with a member of their own sex are referred to a deaconess of the church.

A similar scheme was started in an American city and in two years four ministers were needed to deal with the 47,000 calls received.—China Mail Special.

Marshal Tito: "Atom Pact Is Inevitable"

Paris, Feb. 17. An agreement on atomic energy between the Soviet Union and the United States was not only possible but inevitable, the Yugoslavian President Marshal Tito stated in an interview with Elliot Newcomb, General Secretary of the World Veterans Federation released today in Paris.

Marshal Tito described President Dwight Eisenhower's plan for an atomic pool as one of the best suggestions yet made. Speaking on the prospects for world peace he said: "I can not say that the danger of war is completely eliminated for the moment or in a distant future but I believe that given the present situation, peace can be preserved for a certain number of years."

He went on to say that an independent Austria where the occupation forces had been withdrawn was essential to eliminate the constant danger of an Anschluss.

He favoured efforts to overcome obstacles to the unification of Europe but added that economic and political antagonism between the European nations must be first settled. He concluded his interview by calling on the World Veterans Federation to carry on the fight for international co-operation and world peace.—France-Press.

UK Comment On Naguib's Gift To Sudan

London, Feb. 17. Egyptian President Mohammed Naguib's statement that he would give the Sudan Government five training aircraft and equipment for 1,000 soldiers was greeted in authoritative circles here with the statement that "the British Government welcomes anything which will genuinely constitute to the furthering of the independence of the Sudan."

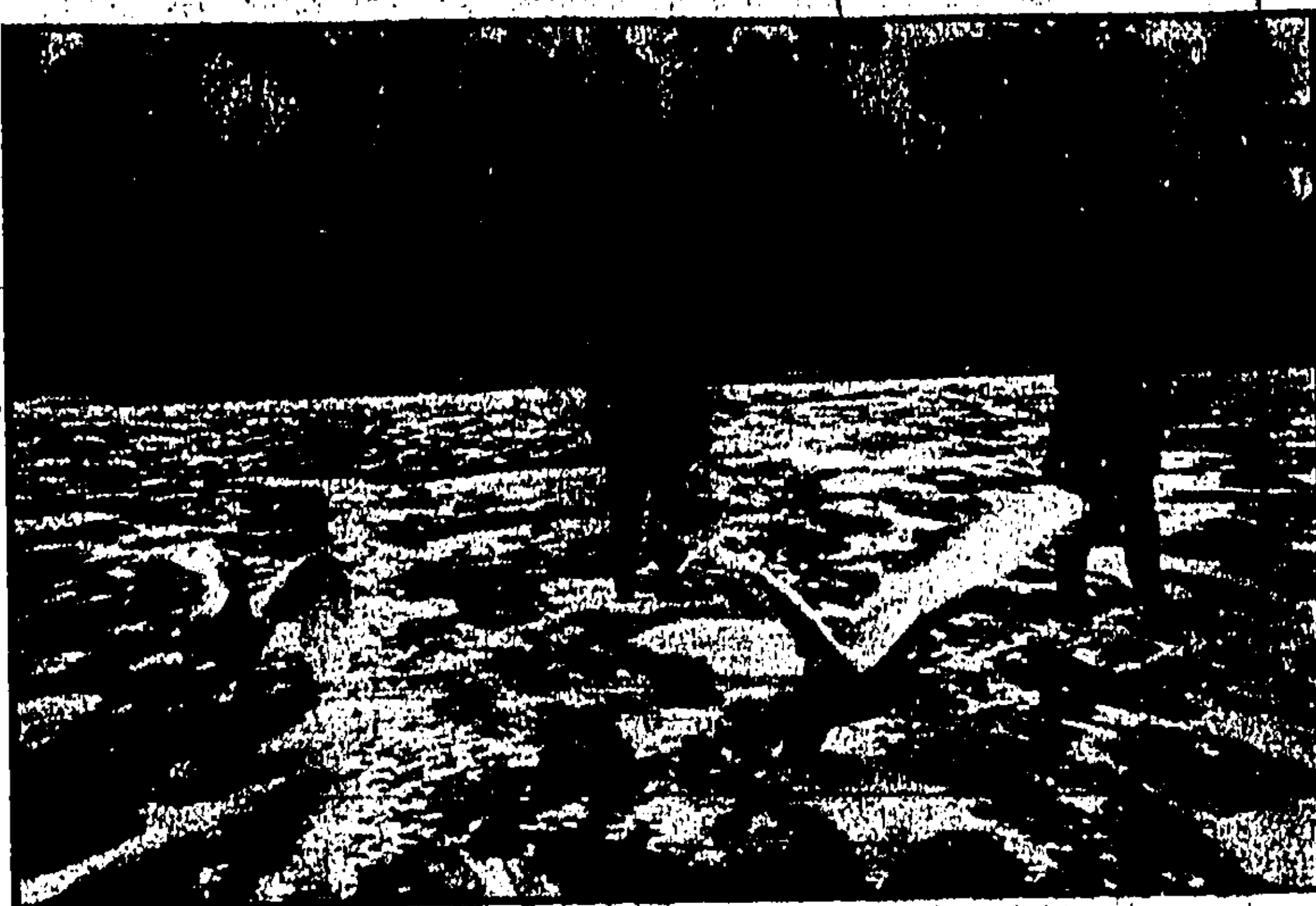
The gift is to be made after March 1. The British Government does not visualise making a similar gesture at this moment, Whitehall circles said.—France-Press.

15 Acres Of Cornish Headland Given To The Nation

London, Feb. 17. A Cornish headland of about 15 acres, giving views of the rocky coast of the Atlantic ocean, has been presented to the nation as a tribute to Queen Elizabeth.

Mr. W. Boney, who gave the land to the National Trust, a charitable organisation which preserves old buildings and places of natural beauty for the nation, has asked also that the land may be a tribute to the Queen's father, King George VI. Years ago, Boney, states and building were very quiet on the land and local people who small things which are under the old fence. The old building and leading platform are all in ruins. The land is now a very quiet place.

Swans Like Skating Too On Wimbledon Common



Swans skim over the icebound pond and the picture comes from Britain — Wimbledon Common on the outer edge of London where such cold spells as the present one are most unusual. — Reuterphoto.

Greece's Youthful Crazy Gang

Father Who Lost His Best Trousers Wants The Existentialists Banned

Athens, Feb. 17.

The Athens Chief of Police, Mr. Nikolaos Tsoussis, has asked the relevant authorities to "ban and dissolve" the existentialist Diogenes Club here. In his request, he states: "the existentialist club has deviated from its original purpose and shown, by its various activities, a complete negation of moral principles."

This step follows a drive by the Greek police to put an end to the jokes and Carnival-like behaviour of members of the existentialist movement in Athens.

While the existentialists themselves, through their learded President, 35-year-old Simos Tsapirides, declare their main purpose is "to live in an original way", police have for some time not been convinced that their originality would remain innocuous if allowed to continue unchecked.

Before the formal request was made for the dissolution of the existentialists' club, a high Athens police official said: "We have come to the conclusion that our Greek existentialists are, in fact, competing with each other to see who can act the more cruelly."

Simos, however, says: "Our primary aim is to give a joyful look to the sad era in which we are living. We always want to have a smile on our face and to make others smile too."

NO RIGHT

The police had no right to interfere with the activities of the Diogenes Club which had received the formal approval of the Athens Civic Court in August last year and was therefore a legal organisation, he said.

The main activities of the Athens existentialists are parties held at their headquarters, known as "the Flying Hut" — a tumble-down, two-storey wooden hut in a narrow Athens street below the Acropolis.

The hut is used by their President as a workshop where he makes canvas tents in the daytime.

From the outside, the Flying Hut looks as though, at the first gust of wind, it would live up to its name and float off or collapse. Inside, a rickety wooden staircase leads to the room used by the existentialists as a Club room. Furnishings are scant, consisting only of a few half-broken chairs and tables.

An old harmonium which has been converted into a piano, and a few other "instruments," such as dried up water melons, hanging from the sagging ceiling, make up the existentialist "band." Here, at their parties, members of the movement produce, according to the neighbours, "more noise than ten military bands put together."

FRENZIED RENDERINGS

The parties are said often to consist of dancing sessions which last sometimes for more than 12 hours and include frenzied renderings of the American boogie-woogie, as well as Greek national dances.

Most of the food eaten at these parties consists of herrings, salted sardines, onions or garlic, and salami dipped in vinegar or honey according to taste. This is all washed down with plenty of kamikatz, Greek wine.—Reuter.

One such party was stopped by the police recently. Some of the best-looking young men and beautiful young girls who were at the party, were held for a few hours questioning in a police station. They were then released.

approved of their children taking part in existentialist activities.

Some of the parents, particularly those of young girls, told the police that they were very definitely opposed to the existentialist activities of their children.

One father declared: "I am absolutely opposed to what appears to me to be an all-the-year-round carnival; I should really be grateful if you found some way of stopping it. A few days ago, I missed my best pair of trousers, only to find out later that they were being worn by my 18-year-old daughter at an existentialist party."

Simos Tsapirides, founder as well as the President of the Greek existentialist movement, is tall, well built, and bearded. The son of very poor parents, he had a hard time as a child, and today still lives in great poverty, making canvas tents and cheap boots.

While not disregarding the teachings of Aristotle, European existentialists such as the German philosopher, Heidegger, the Swede, Kierkegaard, and the Frenchman, Jean Paul Sartre, Greek existentialists claim that they draw the essence of their ideology from domestic sources; namely, from the ancient Greek philosopher, Diogenes, who lived around 325 B.C. and after whom they named their club.

Diogenes' birthplace, according to historians, was Sinopi, a small town in Asia Minor.

Simos also happens to have come from Sinopi, and proudly refers to his common origin with Diogenes.

The story is told that once when the Macedonian Emperor Alexander the Great, visited Diogenes who was sitting in the sunshine outside the big jar he was using as his sleeping quarters, he asked him: "What can I do for you?"

Answered the pauper Diogenes: "I should just like you to move out of the sun." It is on the basis of such principles that modern Greek existentialists claim they should be "left alone to enjoy their own kind of fun."

Existentialists' activities, however, have not been entirely limited to parties. They have also published pamphlets propagating their ideas, helped in collections for the devastated Ionian Islands, and held meetings and round table conferences at which existentialist tents are discussed.

Like their French colleagues, Greek existentialists usually wear clothes made up of multi-coloured rags sewn together. Lately the sign of adherence to the movements has been a huge safety pin attached to the lapel of their coats.

As for Simos, he is proud of his fashion innovations. "I am the one who introduced into Athens tight trousers, shorts in winter, pointed socks, thick-soled shoes, and ties made from newspapers," he declared.—Reuter.

UK Cabinet Approves "New Look" Defence Programme

London, Feb. 17.

The British Cabinet today approved the country's record "new look" defence programme for the coming year. The Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, called the Cabinet into session at 10 Downing Street before the presentation of the annual defence White Paper tomorrow. Informed sources said the Cabinet gave its final approval.

After rising sharply for the last three years, the Defence budget is expected to taper off this year but still it will probably be a record peacetime high.

Britain, like the United States, is gearing her defence programme to the long haul for the cold war with Russia, in direct line with Sir Winston's instructions over the last two years.

Commons To Debate

4-Power Talks

London, Feb. 17. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, told the House of Commons today there would shortly be a Parliamentary debate on the Four Power Conference in Berlin.

Answering a Labour member, Mr. Lloyd said that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden had met politicians of all West German parties in Berlin and there was a general agreement between them in support of Mr. Eden's proposals for a peace treaty with Germany.—France-Press.

OCCUPATION COSTS

Bonn, Feb. 17. West Germany has agreed to go on paying the Western Allies occupation costs of 600 million Marks (about 250 million) monthly until June 30, 1954, unless the occupation ends before that.

The sum is the same as that paid until December 31, 1953, when the previous agreement on occupation costs expired. Payments will cease earlier if the European Army Treaty and the Bonn Conventions ending the occupation regime are ratified before June 30, a Government announcement said.—Reuter.

FEB. 15th TO 28th

WINDSOR'S SALE

25% REDUCTIONS ON

CRYSTAL CUT GLASS

ENGLISH BONE CHINA

FIGURINES & ALABASTER WARE

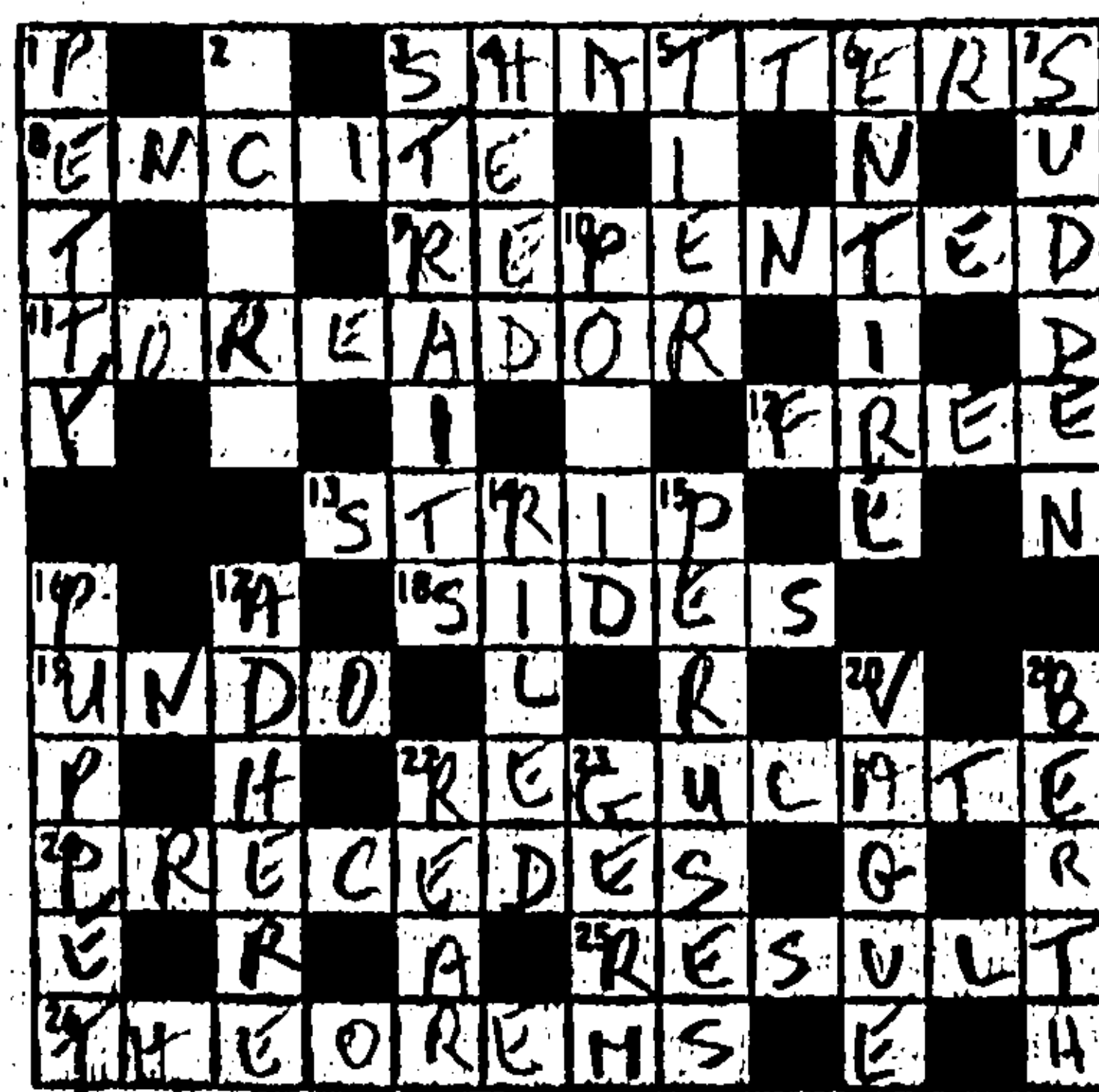
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SHEFFIELD CUTLERY

J. A. Windsor & Co.

Jewellers, 9, Hankow Rd., Kowloon. Tel: 52158.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

DOWN

- 3 Smashes (8).
- 6 Rouse (6).
- 9 Felt indignation about (8).
- 11 Bullfighter (8).
- 12 Unfettered (6).
- 13 Demure (6).
- 15 Loden (4).
- 16 Control (8).
- 24 Goes before (8).
- 25 Lure (6).
- 26 Propositions (6).

- 1 Trivial (6).
- 2 Scratches (5).
- 3 Difficulties (7).
- 4 Wake notice (4).
- 5 Bow (6).
- 6 Whole (6).
- 7 Abrupt (6).
- 10 Weighty (5).
- 15 Reads (7).
- 16 Doll (6).
- 17 Stick (6).
- 23 Underlie (6).
- 21 Bunch (6).
- 22 Bring up (6).
- 23 Microbe (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 1. Torment, 2. Later, 3. Ashored, 10. Abrade, 15. Sincere, 16. Down: 17. Awaken, 18. Deviate, 20. Used, 21. Enslaves, 26. Tempt, 27. Examine, 28. Savoy, 29. Strangle, Down: 1. Floss, 2. Blame, 3. Trade, 4. Noisy, 5. Carrot, 6. Bladed, 8. Berate, 11. Blame, 12. Acid, 14. Vexed, 15. Drain, 16. Bitten, 18. Dunes, 19. Vexed, 23. Green, 25. Rhyme, 26. Bury, 27. Bets.

THE MOST TIMELY MOTION PICTURE OF THE YEAR
ASSOCIATED BRITISH-PATHE presents thru FRIEDER FILM

THE ROYAL TOUR

PRINT BY TECHNICOLOR
A FULL LENGTH FEATURE FILM SENSATIONALLY
PRESENTING THE EPOCH MAKING TOUR OF THE
ROYAL COUPLE THROUGH THESE EXOTIC LANDS

THE WEST INDIES • FIJI and TONGA

— NEW ZEALAND —

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW.

OPENS TO-MORROW

EMPIRE MAXWELL

TO-MORROW



"Well, you wanted to go some place where we could talk without being heard, I just said you wanted to."

• BY THE WAY • by Beachcomber

REVERTING to the matter of the revolving hat. A leading hatter tells me that the revolving mechanism is only for show.

He says and I think it is true—that if you put this mechanism into a hat when it was being worn the wearer would have to turn his head slowly in time with the hat. Also, as only a gentleman can put his head comfortably into a hat, it is not likely that a woman would look at a hat with this mechanism in it. It is a pity that the revolving hat is not a thing of the past.

Just and the

Slapcopper girl
A QUESTION has been asked about the slapcopper girl. I can only report that the slapcopper girl is a thing of the past. There is no doubt that the slapcopper girl is a thing of the past. There is no doubt that the slapcopper girl is a thing of the past.

YOUR BIRTHDAY By STELLA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

BORN today, you are straight-forward, and extremely practical. You know what you want and go after it. You are not a dreamer, and you are not a dreamer. You are not a dreamer, and you are not a dreamer. You are not a dreamer, and you are not a dreamer.

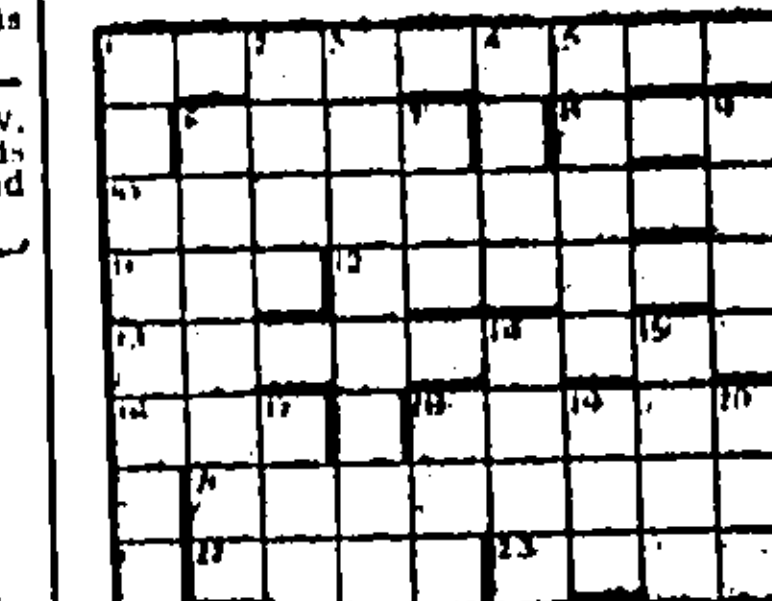
Very often, your partner will know from this one response how high he wants to bid. In this case, my partner knew that one ace was missing and that a small slam was the limit of the hand. Even the small slam might have been set from his point of view, because he didn't know that I held the king of clubs, but he was willing to take a chance.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Ideas that come to you today are probably a good inspiration. You should be carefully checked for practicality. (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—The emotions need to be kept under control, especially if making an important decision. (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Happiness, no doubt is your goal. What makes for your true happiness? (Apr. 21-May 20)—Finish all important tasks today so that you can have a free week-end for recreation. (May 21-June 21)—Yesterday's inspiration looks less like a good one today, don't be disappointed. You'll get it later. (June 22-July 23)—Haste for you today could make waste, so take your time and things and make sure everything is right. (July 24-Aug. 23)—Keep an eye out for something new, but at the same time be sure it is practical before you adopt it and make changes.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Protect your valuable ideas today from the possibility of serious loss if you are not careful. (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Make sure that all important tasks are completed before you leave the office. Don't take home any work. (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)—Plan for a relaxing and restful week-end by finishing all work that has to be done today. (Nov. 24-Dec. 23)—You could combine pleasure and profit today. Take an important decision today. (Dec. 24-Jan. 20)—Don't let anything or anyone interfere with your work schedule today. Keep your nose to the grindstone.

CROSSWORD



Across
1. Does this need a U.N.O. cable?
2. Tradition, the voice of the animal at the end of (4)
3. On (4) (5)
4. John (4)
5. In (4)
6. In (4)
7. In (4)
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24. In (4)
25. In (4)

Down
1. Charitable (4)
2. Nice (4)
3. Short (4)
4. There's a rhythm in a song (4)
5. The stranger in Britain (4)
6. In his clothes the Brit has a (4)
7. The game started the race (4)
8. Before the race was (4)
9. Youth and (4)
10. In (4)
11. In (4)
12. In (4)
13. In (4)
14. In (4)
15. In (4)
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22. In (4)
23. In (4)
24. In (4)
25. In (4)

JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Gerber Convention Used to Advantage

NORTH 16			
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♥	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♦	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♣	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
WEST			
♠	7 6 5 4 3 2		
♥	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♦	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♣	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
EAST			
♠	7 6 5 4 3 2		
♥	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♦	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♣	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
SOUTH (3)			
♠	None		
♥	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♦	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
♣	A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2		
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K.H. IP AND EDWIN TSAI WIN DOUBLES MATCH AGAINST SWEDISH ACES

By "ARGONAUT"

To Hongkong's top-ranking doubles combination of Ip Koon-hung and Edwin Tsai went the major honours at yesterday's exhibition tennis matches at the Hongkong Cricket Club court.

In the main attraction of the evening they edged out the visiting Swedish aces, L. Bergelin and S. Stockenberg, by 6-4, 1-6 and 6-4 after an hour-long thrilling battle of powerful and high speed tennis.

The score was deadlocked at 2-2, 3-3 and 4-4 in the third set, Ip then held his service and together with Tsai fought back strongly to reach three points in a row on Stockenberg's service.

Douce seemed inevitable when Stockenberg was presented with a ribbon in the form of a short job. He, however, mistook it and the ball curved upwards and out of the court off the frame of his racket to give Ip and Tsai the set and match.

Although Bergelin and Stockenberg took a little time off between points to indulge in a little swimming and some friendly rallying with the linesmen they put up their near best once the service was on, and the Hongkong pair were fully worth their victory.

IF IN TOP FORM
The Colony Champion, K. H. Ip, was in top form throughout the whole afternoon. In an earlier one-set singles match he scored a comfortable 6-2 triumph over Stockenberg with a fine exhibition of accurate and powerful all-round strokes.

In the doubles match Ip was the best of the four players. His speed, accuracy and powerful point-winning volleys at the net and his fine short length cross-court returns paved the way to victory.

Tsai, like Stockenberg, was a mixture of brilliance and erratic tendencies. He gave away many points by making a number of backhand returns while Stockenberg laboured with unsuccessful attempts to shorten his length

or keep low his returns to his opponents' services.

Bergelin was the steadier of the two and delighted the crowd with a consistent stream of lightning cross-court forehand drive returns to services but found himself greatly handicapped by his inability to move fast enough when once a rally was on.

Bergelin, however, came well into his own in the two singles sets in which he was successful by pitted against Hongkong's V. T. Wang and his touring mate Stockenberg.

Wang put up a game fight against his vastly superior opponent but, despite the medium pace set by Bergelin, was almost completely exhausted by the time the last game was reached and lost by 3-6.

In the other one-set singles match, which served as a warm-up for their following doubles encounter against Ip and Tsai, Bergelin and Stockenberg threw all caution to the wind and treated the crowd to 15 minutes of slap-bang tennis, with Bergelin emerging the winner by 6-4.

THE RESULTS
L. Bergelin beat V. T. Wang, 6-3.
K. H. Ip beat S. Stockenberg, 6-2.
L. Bergelin beat S. Stockenberg, 6-4.

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Only two out of five Colony Grass Court Tennis Championship matches scheduled yesterday at the HKCC were played off. This was due to the fact that three players did not turn up and gave their opponents walk-overs.

The following are the results: S. Saul lost to E. Saubelle (walkover); C. C. Kao lost to F. Ma (walkover); T. Lo beat C. C. Tsou, 6-3, 6-1; C. S. Cheng lost to W. K. Cheng (walkover); R. M. Macpherson and P. L. Holmes beat G. B. Smart and E. Zuluf, 7-5, 6-4.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Singles—K. H. Ip vs. R. Macpherson (Court 1).
Doubles—J. C. Savage, J. S. Woodhouse vs. D. C. Lee, V. C. Kung (2); K. Lo, T. Lo vs. E. Perella, T. Hui (3); M. C. Ng, C. P. Ho vs. F. Macpherson, B. C. M. Hazlett, P. J. Stewin vs. T. H. Shao, P. F. Zau (5); C. S. Cheng, K. W. Fung vs. W. Wong, V. C. Doi, F. Macpherson vs. K. C. Doi, F. A. Veto (7); F. K. Hu, George Lin vs. J. E. Jackson, G. H. Walker (8).

TOMORROW
Doubles—T. Liang, C. A. Braun vs. C. Wang, S. Y. Kee (1); P. B. Chahar, R. S. Faller vs. V. C. Kung (2); C. S. Cheng (2); L. T. Lee, W. G. Gillies vs. W. T. Lee, S. W. Wong (3); S. W. To, L. C. Chey vs. K. P. Poon (4); C. Quans, F. Lome vs. M. Calvert, R. Moore (5); Y. Shung, W. G. Lang vs. C. H. Y. Fung, V. C. M. (6); A. Kotevall vs. V. T. Wang, E. Saubelle (7); K. H. Ip, Edwin Tsai vs. F. Macpherson, D. O'Reilly, Mayne (8).

Allen Wants Another Fight With Shirai
London, Feb. 18.

Terry Allen, who retained the British Championship by defeating Shiro Shirai, on a disqualification at Harringay, London, last night, wants another fight with world flyweight titleholder Yoshio Shirai of Japan. Allen is ready to fight Jake Tull, the Empire Flyweight Champion, Louis Skerits of France, the European titleholder, and Dai Dower of Wales to prove that he is the logical contender for the World Championship, said his manager Johnny Sharpe today.

Sharpe added, "I always maintained that Allen should have got the decision when he fought Shirai in Tokyo."

SCOTTISH CUP MATCHES
London, Feb. 17.

Results of Scottish Cup matches today were:

Second Round
Falkirk 1, Celtic 2.
Stirling Albion 0, Arbroath 0.

Third Round
Buckie Thistle versus Peebles Rovers postponed until Saturday, Feb. 20.

Dundee 4, Albion Rovers 0.
Kilmarnock 1, Rangers 3.
Revised third round matches on Saturday, Feb. 20: Stirling Albion 0, Arbroath 0; Dundee 4, Albion Rovers 0; Kilmarnock 1, Rangers 3.

International Hockey Series Next Month

The following have been nominated by the Hongkong Hockey Association to organize teams for the annual international competitions scheduled to commence on March 8.

Men's Division: Portugal—A. A. Maruara, England—P. Thorne, India—M. K. Singh, Pakistan—Z. A. Abbas, Holland—P. Struik, Malaysia—S. N. Ponniah, Wales—W. E. Williams.

Volunteers are required to organize teams for Ireland and Scotland. Ladies' Division: Portugal—F. Ferreira, England—J. Lambour, Scotland—K. Campbell.

A volunteer is required to organize a Chinese team.

RULES OF SERIES
Games will be played in the evenings after 5 p.m., but not on Saturdays or Sundays. The finals, however, of both Divisions will be played on Sunday, March 21.

A player may play only in a team of his/her own nationality (a player adopting his/her father's nationality), but if a player has played in the series previously, then he/she may play for the country for which he/she last played.

Umpires and grounds will be nominated by the H.K.H.A. Home teams will be named first and will be responsible for providing sufficient balls.

The draw will be announced later.

LEAGUE STANDINGS
Below are the last hockey league positions:

First Division
Army "A" 13 12 1 24
Recreio "A" 12 11 1 22
V.C.A. 12 10 2 22
R.N. 12 7 4 10
Army "B" 10 7 5 10
R.A.F. 12 2 8 2
Argonauts 14 2 10 2

Second Division
Nav Bharat 11 11 1 24
Thunderbolts "B" 13 9 2 20
Recreio "B" 13 8 1 17
V.C.A. 13 7 3 18
Dorians 14 6 3 17
Victoria 14 6 3 17
K.B.V. "B" 14 4 8 10
Recreio "B" 10 3 7 9
D.C. 12 2 4 8
S.H.C. 13 1 10 2

Ladies' Division
K.G.V. 12 12 1 24
Recreio "A" 13 11 1 26
Dorians 14 8 2 18
Victoria 14 7 3 18
K.B.V. "B" 14 4 8 10
Recreio "B" 10 3 7 9
D.C. 12 2 4 8
S.H.C. 13 1 10 2

Home Rugby Results
London, Feb. 17.

Rugby results today were: New Zealanders 17, Counties 3.

Rugby Union Hospitals' Cup second round:

London Hospital 11, Middlesex Hospital 9.

Rugby League Cup first round, first leg:

Barnsley 18, Hull 15.
Barnsley 18, Hull 15.

Rugby League Cup first round, second leg:

Barnsley 18, Hull 15.
Barnsley 18, Hull 15.

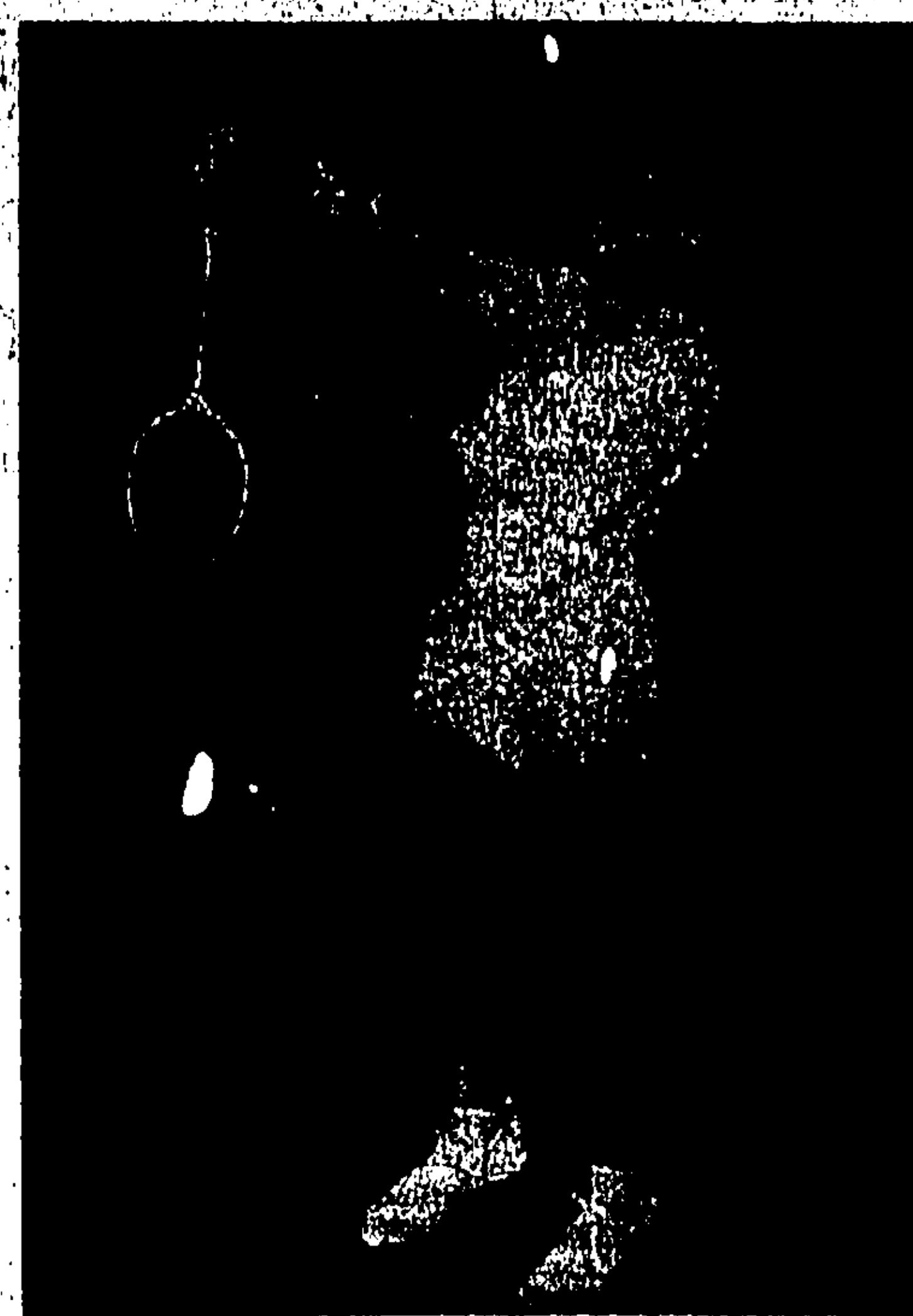
Rugby League Cup first round, third leg:

Barnsley 18, Hull 15.
Barnsley 18, Hull 15.

Rugby League Cup first round, fourth leg:

Barnsley 18, Hull 15.
Barnsley 18, Hull 15.

CHALLENGER



In line form in the county tournaments in England, New Zealand's Badminton Champion Jeff Robson is considered a strong challenger to the best at the All-England Badminton Championships next month.—Central Press Photo.

Mr Newton Makes The Grade As The New Screen Lover

I watched Robert Newton acting a romantic scene at Pinewood—which is something nobody has seen for many years.

Not one of those passionate kissing clinches of course; the Newton who was Bill Sikes in the screen "Oliver Twist" and Long John Silver in "Treasure Island" will never be convincing as a great lover.

But as the hero of Somerset Maugham's story "The Beachcomber" Mr Newton was insinuating Romance all over the set—and it wasn't just the Pinewood replica of a South Sea moonlit beach which did the trick. It wasn't even the tropical banana he offered Glynnis Johns as a token of affection.

Miss Johns was as the receding end of the Newton courtship; and she, as Britain's busiest screen heroine, was in no doubt.

"Here is the ideal leading man for my man," she said after the scene was over. "I had despaired of meeting a new technique in film love-making, but this is it. If only we could have acted together before."

"I doubt whether it would have been the same before. Miss Johns is the first actress to encounter the transformed Robert Newton—the Newton who returned recently from Hollywood with his new (American) wife and announced that he was a reformer."

"Mind you, the first thing I found in the script—now that I am firmly on the wagon—was that they had given me a drunk scene," he remarked. "I probably played it very badly; at any rate, I was shaking with nervousness."

"In the old days I took such scenes in my stride—as steady as a rock. There's a moral to that somewhere, old boy, though I haven't the least idea what."

IT WAS COFFEE
Mr Newton took a deep gulp of coffee—his sole accompaniment to the studio lunch—and grinned.

"Gravelling lines comes more easily to my forehead. That is why he is tempted, as well as flattered, by the stage offer he has received. The Old Vic—who are nothing if not film-star-consultants at present—have invited Newton to play Falstaff for them."

By the Old Vic want Newton on badly enough, they will have to wait. Later this year he is to make a film sequel to "Treasure Island"—in Australia.

FOOTNOTE: In The Beachcomber, Glynnis Johns has the part of a Welsh missionary's sister. Half-way through her big scene recently she had to stop and apologise to director Muriel Box.

"I am ashamed to admit it," said the daughter of Mervyn Johns, Walter's best character actor, "but my Welsh has gone. Will you let me try again?"

Newton said the other evening that he had earned £240,000 from his tax reductions, from playing Falstaff, and a rather unhappy Glynnis Johns, who was on the set, said she had been invited to play Falstaff.

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LET ANDY BEATTIE SELECT SCOTLAND'S TEAM FOR THE WORLD CUP SERIES

Says HARRY ANDREW

That's Andy Beattie—that was! Off a train from Huddersfield stepped Scotland's new World Cup boss. Waiting to meet him in Glasgow were the SFA—as represented by Sir George Graham, the Secretary; Bob Williamson, Treasurer; and Tom Reid, Chairman of Selectors.

The four disappeared into an hotel room for a "hush-hush" conference. Inside an hour they were out. Mr Beattie was travelling again—on his way to Huddersfield to see his club team play Sheffield United.

In the brief hour, Mr Beattie, one-time Scotland full-back was given his first clear outline of his World Cup duties—though, of course, many of the details will have to wait on events.

What are his duties as the SFA see them? They have, I imagine, given him fairly complete control over the discipline of the side. They will, I think, want him to take a firm line on the tactics Scotland must use.

FURTHER THAN THAT
I hope they will go very much further than that.

I hope, for instance, there will be considerable modification of the selection plans already made. The idea at the moment is that the seven selectors will reduce themselves to three for the trip to Norway and Finland—and that these three will choose, from 18 men, the 15 who are to go to Switzerland.

I believe the choosing of the final 15 should be a job for Andy Beattie—and that the three selectors should go along only as advisers.

I believe Mr Beattie should be allowed, as far as possible, to go his own way in all things pertaining to Scottish World Cup preparation. The SFA have been long and careful enough in picking such a man. Now he must be allowed every opportunity to do the job.

Mr Beattie cannot, of necessity, know a lot about club football in Scotland. He will be given every opportunity to learn more before the season ends.

In other words, Scotland should give Andy Beattie dictator powers over all international football until the World Cup is over. Half measures are not good enough.

Presumably he was hired because he is a man of ideas. Give those ideas a break. I recommend to Mr Beattie this true story.

The manager showed his selected team to his new directors. "We need three changes, I think," said one director.

"Make it four," said the manager. "Because if you change that team, I'm off too!"

—(London Express Service)

NO HALF MEASURES

H.K. Olympic Council Meeting
The Colony will send 22—and probably 28—of its foremost athletes to Manila to participate in the Asian Games in May, and will also send at least seven to Vancouver in August for the Empire Games.

This was the decision reached at the meeting of the Amateur Sports Federation and Olympic Council last night.

The notice from Manila, in the form of a letter addressed to the ASF & OC advising of the ineligibility of the Colony's as well as Taiwan's soccer teams for the Asian Games, owing to the fact that both were not affiliated members of FIFA, was also discussed.

The Chairman, Mr J. Skinner, very strongly deplored the fact that Hongkong, one of the leading countries in Asia, where soccer is concerned, had not been granted membership as yet.

He also criticised the action of the Chinese football clubs in not replying to the circular letter regarding the availability of players for the Asian Games, and stated that he felt this lack of co-operation and response was unfair to all those who have given so much of their time and efforts towards making Hongkong a name known overseas.

EMPIRE GAMES
In connection with the contingent for the Empire Games, the Colony will compete in the track, swimming and lawn bowls events. The party will probably total seven in all.

For the Asian games, the contingent will comprise four swimmers and one diver, ten marksmen for the shooting events and six athletes for the track and field. In addition to this, it was suggested that a water-polo team be sent and a minimum of seven players will make the trip. Accompanying the athletes, there will be two officials.

The respective associations are delving deep into their funds to have the Colony's flag flown at the Empire Games. But it was felt that outside help would be required to make it a success financially, and plans to appeal to the Government and various organisations as well as drives to raise money by respective associations were formulated.

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Hongkong Birds (Herklots) 35.00
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King George VI 10.50
It's Fun Finding Out — 2nd series (Bernard Wickstead) 5.00
Rupert Adventures (Annual) 4.00
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I hope—and surely this must be the case—that he will be consulted before Scotland chooses the team to meet England in April. Don't forget that this game may decide whether Scotland go to Switzerland at all. And in any case, it is certainly the one they most need to win.

NO HALF MEASURES
In other words, Scotland should give Andy Beattie dictator powers over all international football until the World Cup is over. Half measures are not good enough.

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The manager showed his selected team to his new directors. "We need three changes, I think," said one director.

"Make it four," said the manager. "Because if you change that team, I'm off too!"

—(London Express Service)

NOTICE
THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

The Club's property at Happy Valley is being lent to the Hong Kong Kennel Club for a Dog Show on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st February, 1954. The premises will close to Members at 12 Noon on Saturday and 10 a.m. on Sunday. The Badminton Courts will be closed all day Friday 19th, Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st February.

During the Show the Private Boxes, Coffee Room, Bar, Ladies' Lounge and the upper verandah will be open and reserved for the use of members of the Jockey Club who attend the Show (admission \$3.00 adults and \$1.00 for Service personnel in uniform and children under 16, payable at the Public Gate).

Members of the Jockey Club attending the Show and who wish to make use of the Club Rooms and upper verandah must wear their Member's Badge, otherwise they will not be admitted thereto.

By Order,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 20th Feb, 1954.

"Bayer's" TONIC

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ARRIVALS FROM		
"HUNAN"	Tientsin	20th Feb.
"TAKHOI"	Shanghai	21st Feb.

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ARRIVALS FROM		
"TAIYUAN"	Kobe	22nd Feb.

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"AGAPENOR"	Glasgow, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, London & Hamburg	23rd Feb. 24th Feb.
"PELEUS"	Marcelles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Mar. 6th Mar.
"AUTOMEDON"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Mar. 14th Mar.
"ATREUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	23rd Mar. 24th Mar.

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Sails		
"AUTOMEDON"	Liverpool	23rd Feb.
"ATREUS"	do	27th Feb.
"PELEUS"	do	10th Mar.
"PATROCLUS"	do	15th Mar.
"ALCINOUS"	18th Feb.	23rd Mar.
"ANTIOCHUS"	24th Feb.	2nd Apr.
"CYCLOPS"	3rd Mar.	7th Apr.
"PERSEUS"	7th Mar.	13th Apr.

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HK/Hankow/Singapore	(DC-4)	7:00 a.m. Thursday
HK/Bangkok/Singapore	(DC-4)	12:00 noon Friday

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

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is applying to the Governor for

naturalization, and that any

person who knows any reason

why naturalization should not be

granted should send a written

and signed statement of the facts

to the Colonial Secretary,

Colonial Secretariat, Hongkong.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS LIMITED

Notice to Shareholders

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders of The Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Limited, will be held at the Registered Office of the Company (Second Floor, Telephone House, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong), on Friday, 19th March, 1954 at 12 Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors together with the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1953, to re-elect a Director and to appoint Auditors.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from the 6th March, 1954 to the 19th March, 1954, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
A. SOMMERFELD,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th Feb. 1954.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

m/s. "PELEUS"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 101st Wharf from 10 a.m. on February 19 and 20, 1954, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, February 17, 1954.

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BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hong Kong, February 18, 1954.

Asi New UK Envoy Leaves for Tehran

Russia Woos Iran: "Yes We Do Owe You 11 Tons Of Gold"

Tehran, Feb. 17.

Russia warmed up its bid for Iranian friendship today just as Britain's new Ambassador flew off from London to lead Western efforts to solve the dispute over Iran's vital oil reserves.

The latest Soviet move was a belated admission that Russia owes its southern neighbour 11 tons of gold.

The disputed billion-blocked since the war's end in Russia—was a major point of dispute in lengthy negotiations now underway between the two Governments on complicated border and financial issues.

Soviet negotiators, meeting at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, timed the move with the departure from London of Sir Robert Bannister, the new British Ambassador to Tehran.

Sir Robert, the first British Ambassador to come here since ousted Premier Mohammed Mossadegh seized British oil properties and severed diplomatic relations, said on departing that "the first problem is obviously the oil settlement."

He added: "I have no definite plans for the oil talks. But I have hopes that some steps will be taken soon."

AIOC CANNOT RETURN

He revealed that "exploratory talks" already had been initiated by the Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Denis Wright, who re-opened the British Legation this year.

AIOC CANNOT RETURN

They flew to Iran to inspect Abadan and the oilfields while their companies—three of them American—negotiated on marketing in London.—United Press.

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"CORFU"	4th February	6th March
"CHUSAN"	4th March	6th April
"CHUSAN"	19th March	17th April
Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore		
Homewards		
"CARTHAGE"	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CORFU"	12th March	12th April
"CHUSAN"	6th April	10th May
"CHUSAN"	2nd May	31st May

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Outwards		
"TREVETHOE"	27th February	From U.S. Continent, U.S. Straits
"SINGAPORE"	28th February	—
Homewards		
"SINGAPORE"	28th February	For Cebu, Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg & Copenhagen

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"SANTHA"	due 31st Feb.	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta
"SANTHA"	sails 23rd Feb.	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta
"SANTHA"	sails 27th Feb.	for Japan
"SANTHA"	sails 10th Mar.	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta

P. & O.B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OBRA"	due 22nd Feb.	for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi direct Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay
"OBRA"	sails 23rd Feb.	for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi direct Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay
"OBRA"	due 24th Feb.	for Japan
"OBRA"	sails 25th Feb.	for Japan
"OBRA"	due 15th Mar.	for Singapore, Colombo, 30 m b y Karachi, Aden, Bombay & Beirut direct
"OBRA"	sails 14th Mar.	for Singapore, Colombo, 30 m b y Karachi, Aden, Bombay & Beirut direct

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO. LTD.

"EASTERN"	due 4th Mar.	from Australia
"EASTERN"	sails 5th Mar.	for Japan
"EASTERN"	due 10th Mar.	for Australia
"EASTERN"	sails 11th Mar.	for Japan
"EASTERN"	due 15th Mar.	for Japan
"EASTERN"	sails 16th Mar.	for Japan
"EASTERN"	due 19th Apr.	from Japan
"EASTERN"	sails 20th Apr.	for Australia, Wellington, Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

OF HONG KONG LTD.

Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"NOREVERETT"

Arrives	Feb. 23	from Singapore.
Sails	Feb. 23	for Kobe, Yokohama, Shimizu, Nagoya & Osaka.

"REBEVERETT"

Arrives	Feb. 27	from Japan.
Sails	Feb. 28	for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf Ports.

"STAR BETELGEUSE"

Arrives	Feb. 20	from Japan.
Sails	Feb. 21	for Singapore, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah & Bahrain.

"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives	Mar. 2	from Singapore.
Sails	Mar. 3	for Okinawa, Incheon, Fusan, Kobe & Yokohama.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama)

With Limited Liability

Queen's Building, Telephone 31204

Chinese Department: Telephone 28293

Detroit Hit By

Growing

Unemployment

Detroit, America's motor-

manufacturing centre, has

been declared an "area of

substantial unemployment,"

and one of the big motor

concerns—Studebaker—

has reduced the staff of its

South Bend (Indiana) plant

to one-half of the 1953 peak

figure, according to Ameri-

can cables.

By mid-January, there were

107,000 unemployed in the

Detroit area, which, as a result

of this declaration, becomes eligi-

ble for Government help in getting

defence orders.

To become classified as an

area of substantial unemploy-

ment, 6 per cent or more of the

workers in the area must be out

of work. So far, 22 major in-

dustrial centres have now been

placed in this category by the

Department of Labour.

The Census Bureau reported

recently that national unem-

ployment had increased in

January by 810,000 to a total

of 2,301,000, the highest level for

three years, but this increase

was said to be largely seasonal.

Nevertheless a representative

of the "motor industry" Mr. G.

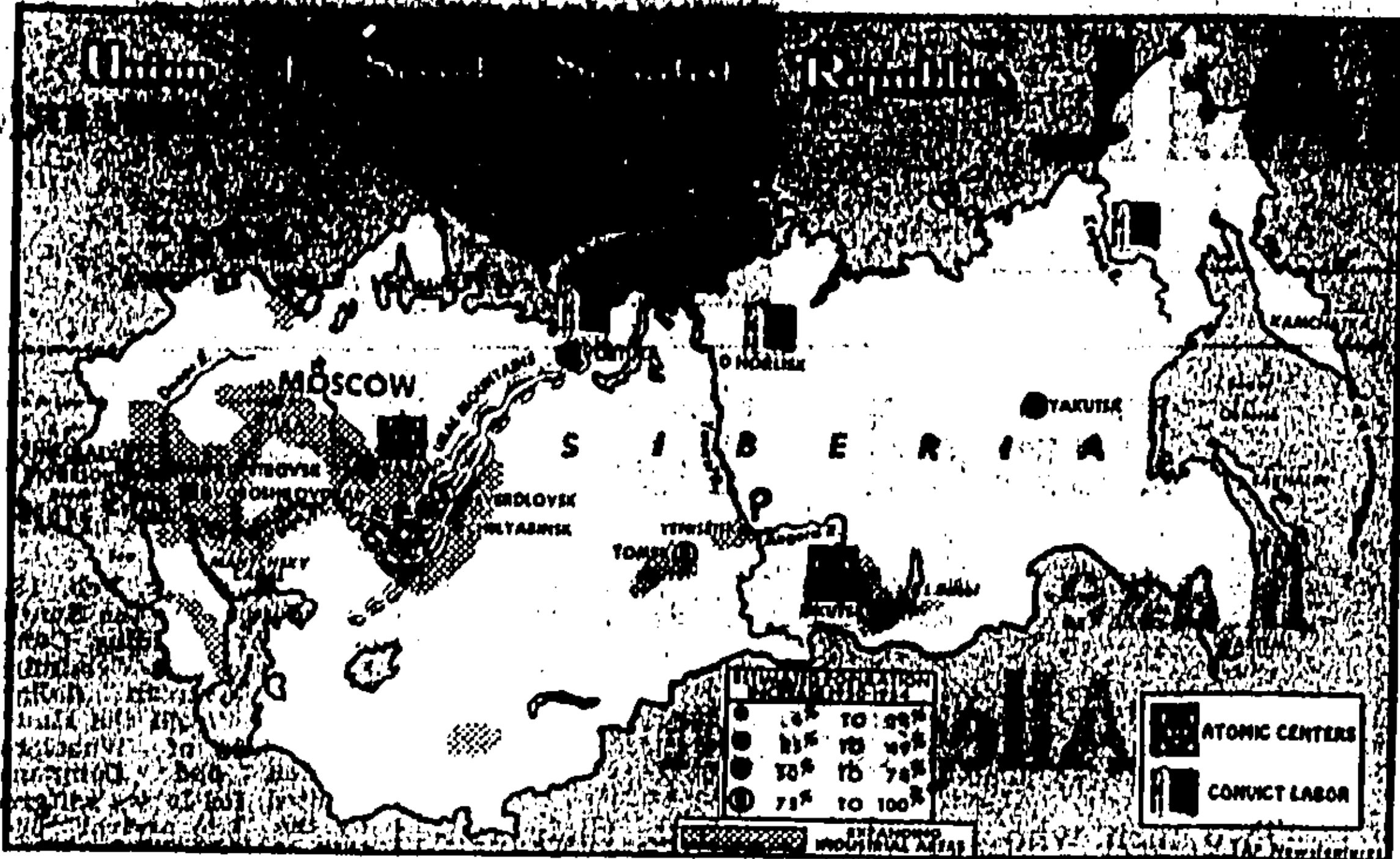
Kingsley, of the Ford Company,

said a Congressional committee

the worst of the decline in

general business activity has

already taken place. Companies



Strategic Industries Are Booming In Russia's 'Outback'

By Tom Whitney, Former Associated Press Correspondent in Moscow

New York.

The latest indications of Soviet population shifts reveal that strategic industry areas in the USSR—including probable atomic weapons centres—are booming.

Russian affairs specialists in this country are studying the implications of the reallocation of Soviet electoral districts based on population changes which was announced in the Soviet paper Pravda a few days ago. They found some startling results.

The most sensational development turned up by comparing election districts for 1950 with those for this year is the news that the population in Angara River districts just east of Lake Baikal has taken a tremendous leap upward. It is in this area that the Soviets are rumoured to be constructing a tremendous hydro-electric power and atomic energy development.

They're Trying To Make England Flood-Proof

London, Feb. 17.

Britain has reached the half-way mark in her campaign to repair a 1,000-mile stretch of East Coast sea defences, which were breached at 1,200 points by the raging floods of early last year.

Months of intense reconstruction work have so far cost the British Government £20 million sterling. The breaches have been blocked. Thousands of workmen have built up and strengthened sea walls protecting densely populated areas.

Though the programme will not be complete until later this year, engineering experts are confident that defences can now withstand another onslaught from the North Sea.

High Spring tides are forecast for February and March but weathermen here report that the chances of last year's disaster being repeated are remote.

For the floods, which rushed over the East Coast, killing more than 300 people on the night of January 31-February 1 last year were unusual. A howling gale lashed the North Sea into fury, hurling frothing waves nearly 600 feet long against the sea defences at a time when the spring tides were at their maximum.

Together, tides and gales did what was believed to be impossible, pounding the concrete walls of the sea coast and dykes until they crumbled.

In one night, some 100,000 acres were covered by the sea. 24,000 houses were damaged, 200 major industrial plants were inundated, 14 major gas and electricity installations crippled and eleven main roads made impassable.

Over 1,000 head of cattle, 9,000 sheep, 2,500 pigs and 33,500 head of poultry were killed.

Fill the Breaches

Thirty thousand rescue workers, including 15,000 troops went in to save people trapped in their homes and begin a back-breaking battle to fill the breaches.

Within a few hours, repair work was under way, threatened by more high tides. But the main danger was over, and the work of patching up the coastline was able to continue.

In the first six weeks, work costing £6 million sterling was carried out. Fifteen million sandbags, tens of thousands of tons of stone and steel sheet piling were used to build up the defences.

Engineers faced significant problems. In east Suffolk, Norfolk and Lincolnshire, the sea dunes which had previously provided a natural defence against the sea, were washed away.

On Chiswick Island, in the estuary of the River Thames, where 22 people were killed in one of the worst-hit areas, the

Two new electoral districts have been formed in this area which means there are at least 600,000 more people there now than four years ago. This is a very large increase for such an undeveloped region and amounts to an increase of 50 per cent in less than half a decade.

This lends weight to the statements made by repatriated Japanese war prisoners who worked in this area and other indications that the Russians are hard at work harnessing for use in atomic energy work the cheap and vast energy of the Angara River as it flows from Lake Baikal over swift rapids to its confluence with the Yenesei River.

Another very large Soviet population increase is shown in the Donbass-Donetz industrial complex in the Ukraine where steel, coal, chemicals, electric power, machinery and war equipment are produced in great quantities. Apparently there are now 1,500,000 more people there than four years ago.

Two Soviet navy bases and naval construction districts on the Black Sea are shown to have risen in population by 600,000 in the last four years. They are Nikolayevsk and Kherson.

Big metal-working, metallurgical and coal mining centres in the Urals have increased in population by around a million since 1950. The Urals during the war became the principal arsenal of the Soviet army.

Other Places

Here are some other places in Russia where population has risen rapidly:

TOBOLSK in Central Siberia, which is a centre of scientific research.

KAZAN on the Volga River where the Russians moved their atomic research immediately after the war and where they have secret factories including at least one producing heavy bombers.

VORKUTA beyond the Arctic Circle in the extreme northeast corner of European Russia where with convict labour the Russians have been developing coal mining and oil fields.

THE YAKUTSK REPUBLIC in northern Siberia. Rich in minerals including gold.

THE KOLYMA RIVER area which also has large deposits of gold and minerals and has been a centre of convict labour under the Ministry of Internal Affairs (the police).

THE Khatanga RIVER valley including Norilsk, a nickel mining centre in the far north, and Yenisei, where large developments of an unknown character are being pushed.

THE Khatanga RIVER valley including Norilsk, a nickel mining centre in the far north, and Yenisei, where large developments of an unknown character are being pushed.

JAPAN MUST COMPETE WITH UK CLOTH TRADE

Exports This Year May Reach 1,000 Million Yards

Nagoya, Feb. 17.

The Chairman of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Association Mr Kyjiro Abe, estimates that Japan's cotton cloth export this year will equal last year's figure of 910,000,000 yards, or at the most attain 1,000 million yards.

He gave this view when he arrived in Nagoya yesterday to explain the capital increase carried out by the Toyo Spinning Company of which he is President. He said that in line with exports achieved last year, the J.C.S.A. has asked the Ministry of International Trade and Industry to guarantee 200,000 bales of cotton monthly for cotton cloth production.

Although the Anglo-Japanese trade and payments agreement now permits Japan to export cotton cloth up to a figure of £209,800,000, Japan, Mr Abe said, already has exported £145 million worth of cotton cloth to the United Kingdom.

This meant that Japan would have to negotiate separately with British autonomous possessions to clear the remaining amount, Mr Abe said, adding, however, that this would not be as easy as Japanese goods would have to compete with high quality British products.

As to exports to Indonesia, Mr Abe said Japan exported 300 million yards of cotton

cloth to that country during last year, to which amounted to excess export.

He felt some steps should be taken to curtail such exports to Indonesia as the latter may consider such excess export as falling under reparations and they may not be settled.

Mr Abe said that international demand for cotton cloth had now reached the consumption limit, and there is the need for spinners voluntarily to limit the increase of their spindles.

He believed that Japanese cotton cloth makers from now on should concentrate on manufacturing high grade cloth which could compete with British goods.—China Mail Special.

New Capital From USA

Washington, Feb. 17.

A new United States programme to stimulate the flow of dollar capital to Japanese industries will be set up by the end of this month, American officials reported today.

It is the investment guarantee programme for United States businessmen, banks and investment corporations who plan to invest or extend their present holdings in Japan.

Agreement to begin the programme will be formalised by an exchange of notes between the United States and Japanese Governments in Tokyo in a week or ten days, according to officials in Washington.

The guarantee programme was started by the United

States in 1951 to protect American investors against loss of capital through nationalisation of industry and against certain other possible hazards in Western European countries.

The officials said the agreement for Japan would insure the United States investors against:

1. Risk of nationalisation or expropriation of an industry by the Japanese Government.
2. Loss resulting from any change in Japanese investment laws which might affect the rate at which Americans are allowed to withdraw capital or profits in dollars to the United States.

The official said certain technical understandings had to be worked out with the Japanese negotiators in Tokyo, but no obstacle appeared to be in the way of the formal exchange of notes by the end of the month.

It is understood the Japanese Government will undertake to:

1. Recognise the right of the United States Government to assume the claim of an American investor receiving compensation through the guarantee programme.
2. Permit the United States to use for administrative expenses in Japan any yen paid by the Japanese Government to settle claim for compensation.
3. Enter into direct negotiation if the United States is dissatisfied with the amount of compensation paid after nationalisation of an industry or change in investment laws.
4. Request an arbitrator to give a binding ruling in the case of dispute.
5. Submit the question of an arbitrator to the President of the World Court at The Hague if the two Governments are unable to choose one within three months.—China Mail Special.

Singapore Rubber Market

Singapore, Feb. 17.

The rubber market was quiet. There were some small overseas orders for lower grades.

Future closings were:
No. 1 rubber per lb. 54 1/2-54 3/4
No. 2 rubber per lb. 54 1/4-54 1/2
No. 3 rubber per lb. 54 1/4-54 1/2
No. 4 rubber per lb. 53 3/4-54
Spot rubber unbleached 53 1/2-54 1/4

NEW YORK MARKET

New York, Feb. 17.

Rubber futures today closed 5 to 25 points lower with sales of 15 contracts.

Wall Street investment buying developed in a small way in the far off March contract.

Locally, prices softened with London in the afternoon, although shipment offerings were light and held above a workable basis. Future closings:—

March 54 1/2-54 3/4
April 54 1/4-54 1/2
May 54 1/4-54 1/2
June 53 3/4-54
July 53 3/4-54
Aug. 53 3/4-54
Sept. 53 3/4-54
Oct. 53 3/4-54
Nov. 53 3/4-54
Dec. 53 3/4-54

LONDON MARKET

London, Feb. 17.

The rubber market was barely steady with No. 1. Has spot quoted at 10 1/2 pence per lb. Prices:—

No. 1 Rubber 10 1/2-10 3/4
No. 2 Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2
No. 3 Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2
No. 4 Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2
Spot Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2

Exchange Rates

London, Feb. 17.

The dollar was steady at 10 1/2 pence per lb. Prices:—

No. 1 Rubber 10 1/2-10 3/4
No. 2 Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2
No. 3 Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2
No. 4 Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2
Spot Rubber 10 1/4-10 1/2

CHICAGO GRAIN FUTURES

Chicago, Feb. 17.

Prices per bushel in cents. Closing prices:
Wheat No. 1 Hard 100 1/2-100 3/4
Wheat No. 2 Hard 99 1/2-99 3/4
Wheat No. 3 Hard 98 1/2-98 3/4
Wheat No. 4 Hard 97 1/2-97 3/4
Wheat No. 5 Hard 96 1/2-96 3/4
Wheat No. 6 Hard 95 1/2-95 3/4
Wheat No. 7 Hard 94 1/2-94 3/4
Wheat No. 8 Hard 93 1/2-93 3/4
Wheat No. 9 Hard 92 1/2-92 3/4
Wheat No. 10 Hard 91 1/2-91 3/4
Wheat No. 11 Hard 90 1/2-90 3/4
Wheat No. 12 Hard 89 1/2-89 3/4
Wheat No. 13 Hard 88 1/2-88 3/4
Wheat No. 14 Hard 87 1/2-87 3/4
Wheat No. 15 Hard 86 1/2-86 3/4
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Wheat No. 19 Hard 82 1/2-82 3/4
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Wheat No. 23 Hard 78 1/2-78 3/4
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Wheat No. 25 Hard 76 1/2-76 3/4
Wheat No. 26 Hard 75 1/2-75 3/4
Wheat No. 27 Hard 74 1/2-74 3/4
Wheat No. 28 Hard 73 1/2-73 3/4
Wheat No. 29 Hard 72 1/2-72 3/4
Wheat No. 30 Hard 71 1/2-71 3/4
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Wheat No. 97 Hard 4 1/2-4 3/4
Wheat No. 98 Hard 3 1/2-3 3/4
Wheat No. 99 Hard 2 1/2-2 3/4
Wheat No. 100 Hard 1 1/2-1 3/4
Wheat No. 101 Hard 1/2-1 3/4
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1954.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Silence In Court

IT was late at night, and cold, and a tall man leaned against the parapet of Lambeth Bridge, watching the black river hurrying towards the sea.

Presently, the tall man stretched and yawned, as if he were ready for sleep. He left his river-gazing and walked slowly, head-in-air, towards the Millbank side.

He stood for a moment by the roundabout on the embankment there, hovering on the kerbside, then changed his mind about crossing the road.

He returned to the bridge, and stared again at the water, and listened to the summer-sound it made against the bridge's piers.

THE WATCHER

TWO or three times more, the tall man walked, now to this shore, now to that, and in between each listless journey, he stood on the bridge, looking and listening.

A policeman had unobtrusively been watching the tall man. Now, he went up to him. "Good evening, sir," he said. "You got anywhere to go to?"

The tall man, who wore a greying vandyke beard, and his grey-streaked hair brushed neatly back above a broad, intelligent forehead, looked down and said in a quiet, cultivated voice: "No, I've nowhere to go to, officer. I've no money to go to anywhere."

He sighed heavily and under the lamps, the policeman saw how tired he looked. Tired, or ill, or both.

HOPELESS

"WELL, look here," said the officer, "there's a place you can go to, for the night where they'll charge you nothing." He gave the address of a hostel.

"No, thank you, officer," the tall man said. "I had been thinking of the river. I'm heavily in debt, you see. Hopeless." He shook his head and smiled wanly. "The river was the place for me. I thought," he said.

The policeman arrested him for wandering abroad and lodging in the open air, and to this charge, at Bow Street next morning, the tall man, whose name was Edmond, pleaded guilty before Sir Laurence Dunne, the Chief Magistrate.

FIGHTING IT OFF

"WHAT'S happened?" Sir Laurence asked in a gentle voice. "You look in pretty poor shape."

Edmond gave a wry, shamed grin. "I've been rather unfortunate," he said. "Stupid, too, I suppose. I've suffered a good deal of ill-health, been fighting it off for some months now. But I couldn't afford the time to go into hospital till I'd straightened things out a bit."

"Have you any people?" Sir Laurence asked.

"No," said Edmond, who is 38, "I have no relatives at all."

THE FIRST THING

"WELL, look here," said Sir Laurence. "I'm going to remand you for a week. It will help us to help you. You're perfectly frank with the probation officer, whom I want you to have a talk to. The first thing, however, is to let the doctors have a look at you."

"Yes, sir, thank you very much indeed, sir," Edmond said. He went away, slowly, like an elderly invalid.

A week later Edmond's name was called again at Bow Street. No one answered. The colorist said: "This man, sir, is reported very ill in the prison hospital. He is not expected to live for more than a few days."

The court fell strangely, touchingly, momentarily silent. The only sound, that of Sir Laurence's pen, as he wrote in his register the two words "No appearance," against the name of Edmond.

Huks May Surrender En Masse

DEVELOPMENTS AWAITED

Manila, Feb. 18. The mass surrender of Huks appeared imminent last night as House Speaker Jose B. Laurel was contacted by the brother-in-law of Huk commander Luis Taruc to sound him out on the stand of Congress regarding the grant of amnesty to surrendering dissidents.

While refusing to commit himself, Speaker Laurel told Taruc that members of the House were to take up the matter. He also told Taruc's brother-in-law that in order not to embarrass President Magsaysay, the lower House would take part in the negotiations by merely creating a three-man committee to confer with the President, and to ensure the backing of the House of any decision which the Chief Executive may adopt.

Meanwhile, an AFP correspondent learned from very reliable sources this morning that Taruc and his elite 20-man bodyguard would have been flown to Manila on Thursday afternoon, but Taruc's surrender failed to materialize. It was learned, because President Magsaysay refused to give his approval to what these sources described as general Huk surrender terms laid down by Taruc.

IN SAME AREA

As a matter of fact, it was added, President Magsaysay was in the very same area in Laguna province (southern Luzon) where the Manila Times reporter, Benigno Aquino, was set to accompany Taruc to Manila.

Aquino, who interviewed Taruc on Tuesday somewhere in the Sierra Madre mountains, returned to the same place on Wednesday with a moving picture crew and filmed Taruc and his men.

The general Huk surrender terms, the nature of which was not disclosed, were submitted in writing by Taruc to chairman Manuel Manahan of the President's Complaints and Action Commission. It was further learned.

President Magsaysay yesterday countered the order of the Army Chief of Staff, Maj. General Jesus Vargas, for the resumption of military operations after midnight today at the Huk surrender negotiations area in Quezon province. He directed the ceasefire zone to be held inviolate till February 22. The deadline set for the Huks to reply to the government terms.

STANDARD WEAPON

After a flying trip to the second military area headquarters in Canlubang town, Laguna province, near Quezon, President Magsaysay said last night: "I realize that peace negotiations with no will to peace is the standard weapon of the Communists. I will not permit this weapon to be used against us. At the same time, the Huks who are not Communists but have been deceived by glittering promises of land and social justice. We must give these people a chance to again become useful citizens. To them we cannot close the road to peace and rehabilitation which this new administration is seeking to bring to this country."

The government terms for Huk surrender is that they (1) lay down their arms at the rate of 20 per cent for all ranks each month, (2) those charged with crimes stand trial before courts, and (3) government aid to those cleared and pardoned to settle.

—France-Press.

Chinese Woman Robbed

A middle-aged Chinese woman was robbed by two men of a gold bangle valued at \$150 as she was mounting the stairs to her house, 399, Hennessy Road, at about 10.30 a.m. today.

A report was made to Eastern Police Station and Police are investigating.

MR NEHRU WAVES TO PILGRIMS



Mr. Pandit Nehru waves to the crowd of pilgrims during the festival in the Ganges during which at least 500 pilgrims were killed and 2,000 injured when the vast crowd got out of hand and stampeded. The ceremony, which is normally held every twelve years, was also attended by Dr. Prasad, the Indian President. Police made a Lathi charge when a procession was blocked by the crowds and children, invalids and lepers who were unable to move fast enough, were trampled to death.—London Express.

JUDGE INCREASES SENTENCES

In the Criminal Appeal Court this morning Mr Justice C. W. Reece increased the sentences of two appellants whose grounds he found were "frivolous" and dismissed the appeals of five other men.

In another case he quashed the conviction of Cheng Sik-lun on two counts of larceny from an unknown person. Cheng had pleaded guilty to stealing a fountain pen and a wallet containing \$1.40 from two unknown persons on the Causeway Bay reclamation ground.

The Judge revoked the sentence of nine months passed on Cheng on those two counts but allowed to stand the sentence of 18 months which Cheng received on two other counts of larceny from the person and possession of an identity card, which was not his. Cheng appealed for a reduction of the aggregate term, having pleaded guilty to all counts.

In increasing the sentence on Au Cheong from ten months to a year and that on Lee Hok-lin from 18 months to 30 months, Mr Justice Reece told them that he considered they had been generously treated by the Magistrate and that they were wasting the Court's time in appealing when they had absolutely nothing to say. "You don't know when you are lucky," he added after reading the criminal record of the two men.

Au was sentenced to six months last December for pocket-picking at a tram stop and to another four for returning from expulsion.

Appealing against his conviction he told Mr Justice Reece that he was waiting at a tram stop for some one when a Shanghai man accused him of stealing his wallet.

PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS

Mr Justice Reece noted that the appellant had three previous convictions for picking pockets, larceny by finding and possession of an instrument fit for an unlawful purpose.

The Judge found that the second man, Lee, had four previous convictions which included ten counts of larceny.

Lee, sentenced last month to 18 months for burglary and stealing three suits belonging to Major Leigh, claimed that he had been wrongly convicted. He said he was walking past the house, stopped because he heard noises inside and was caught by men who rushed out from within. "The clothing was not in my possession," Lee added.

Mr Justice Reece told him that he was caught red-handed and there was no question of anyone passing by on the street.

He also dismissed the appeal brought by Kwan Fat and Leung Sap against their sentence of two years for stealing jewellery from a goldsmith last month.

Kwan complained that he was in the third stage of tuberculosis while Leung said that his family were victims of the Shik Kip Mei Fire and he would not find them intact if he went to prison for two years. He had intended to take them to Macao, he added.

Mr Justice Reece noted that from showing any intention of taking his family to Macao, Leung seemed to have spent much of his time in prison for he had never previously been convicted since 1946.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted by air. Registered mail is posted by air in general, but is not carried by air in the case of parcels. The latest times of posting for registered mail are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mail can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

By Air
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, U.S.A., 8 a.m.
China, 9 a.m.
Philippines, N. Borneo, 9 p.m.
By Surface
Malaya, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, 3 p.m.
Philippines, 3 p.m.
Itabari, 8 p.m.
Macao, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

By Air
Thailand, Burma, India, Ceylon, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 8 a.m.
Indo-China, 10 a.m.
Canton, Hong Kong, 1 p.m.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, 6 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A. and Canada, 6 p.m.
Indo-China, 6 p.m.

By Surface
China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Japan, 9 a.m.
Indo-China, France, 2 p.m.
Philippines, 3 p.m.
Macao, 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

By Air
Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., 8 a.m.
Burma, India, Ceylon, 9 a.m.
Thailand, Malaya, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 8 a.m.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. 2.30 p.m. Signal and Programme Summary: 2.30 Jazz Half Hour presented by Robin Day (Studio); 3.30 Portuguese Half Hour (Studio); 4.30 Weather Report; 7.15 Time Signal and World News (London Relay); 7.15 News Talk (London Relay); 7.15 Special Announcements; 7.15 London Philharmonic Orchestra: Water Music Suite (London); 7.30 Down Memory Lane presented by Alison Woods (Studio); 8.15 Hit Parade; The Week's Ten Top Tunes presented by Bernard Hicks (Studio); 8.30 Take it from here with Sally Rogers, Dick Bentley and Jimmy Edwards (Studio); 9.15 Time Signal; Sports Review by Big Voice (Studio); 9.15 At the Opera: Tristan and Isolde (1st. & 2nd. Acts); 10.15 With Principals, Chorus of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and the Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Wilhelm Furtwaengler: Mass in B minor (Recorded London Relay); 10.30 Sweet and Lowly The Muppet Show; 11.15 Time Signal; Radio News Hour (Recorded London Relay); 11.15 News and Analysis; 11.30 News; 11.30 The Queen; 11.30 Close Down.

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Forced To Make Confession Allegation

Two men who appealed against their sentences of 12 months' hard labour and 12 strokes of the cane for larceny from the person told Mr Justice J. R. Gregg in the Appeal Court this morning that they had not committed the offence but had been compelled to admit they were guilty after having been beaten up by the Police.

Appellants were Li Sang and Li Wah, and they asked for a reduction of sentence on the grounds that the term imposed on them was excessive.

First appellant claimed he was a hawker and he had no money to pay for his goods. After his arrest, he claimed he was beaten up by detectives and compelled to confess.

Second appellant also said he was a hawker and did not know why he had been arrested. He was beaten up by the Police and forced to make an admission of guilt.

His Lordship said he could see no reason why the sentences which, in his opinion, were not severe should be reduced. He dismissed the appeals.

SENTENCES VARIED

In two other appeals against sentence, Mr Justice Gregg allowed the appeals to the extent that he varied sentences which had been illegally imposed by magistrates.

Li Sun, who had been sentenced to 12 months' hard labour and 12 strokes of the cane for larceny from the person, one year for another similar offence, and two years for breach of a deportation order, asked for a reduction of sentence on the grounds that he had only pleaded guilty before the magistrate because of beatings by the Police.

Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, drew the Court's attention to the fact that the sentence of three years imposed on the appellant was illegal, the magistrate having power only to impose a term of two years. He said it seemed clear from the record that the magistrate had intended to give the appellant three years' imprisonment, and suggested that the Court might vary the sentences by altering the sentence of three years to the first count to two years and to make the sentence of one year on the second count consecutive to the first.

Mr Justice Gregg told appellant he was lucky in that the magistrate had, by an oversight, imposed a larger sentence than he was entitled to give. The Court would reduce the sentences imposed by changing the term of three years to two years, the other sentences to remain the same, and to order that they be all served concurrently.

WAR INJURIES

Ng Wai, sentenced to 12 months' hard labour and 12 strokes of the cane for larceny from the person, and to a concurrent term of one month for failing to report to the Police while under supervision, asked that the order for coming be rescinded. He said he did not dispute the prison terms, but felt he could not stand the caning because of injuries suffered during the war.

Mr Blair-Kerr said that if the caning was the only thing the appellant was appealing against he would consent to it as the caning ordered by the magistrate was also illegal. His Lordship rescinded the order for caning but said the other sentences would stand. Addressing Crown Counsel, his Lordship remarked it was extraordinary how illegal sentences came to be imposed by the magistrates. He asked if there was any explanation and whether it was due to the wording of the section of the Ordinance under which the persons affected had been sentenced. Mr Blair-Kerr replied that under Section 82 of the Magistrates' Ordinance a magistrate had power to order a caning if the victims of the offence happened to be women or children. He could only suggest that the magistrates must have missed the section.

Li Kai, 31, and Hui Fung, 33, appealed against sentences of two years' hard labour for larceny from the person. His Lordship dismissed the appeals, saying they had pleaded guilty to the offences.

Hongkong Firm Loses Action

Singapore, Feb. 18. Judgment for the Southern Light Trading Company in a suit claiming 75,930 Malaysian dollars (\$28,900) from the Hongkong firm of Wheelock, Martin and Company, Limited, for losses suffered by the late arrival of a ship chartered from Hongkong to pick up 2,500 tons of firewood, was delivered by Mr Justice Fletcher Rogers in the Federal Court, North Borneo, last week.

The plaintiff company maintained that there was breach of contract. The chartered ship, the Allura, was scheduled to arrive between July 1 and July 10, 1953, but did not arrive until July 21.

When the ship arrived, it already had a load of logs on board and it was only able to take on 708 tons of firewood. Two Singapore lawyers, Mr N. Macanay for the plaintiffs and Mr J. E. Lloyd for the defendants, argued the case.—Reuter.

Successful Appeal By Room Boys

The Crown did not oppose an appeal brought this morning by two room boys of the Luk Kwok Hotel against their conviction for brothel keeping at the hotel and as a result, Mr Justice C. W. Reece quashed their conviction and ordered a refund of monies paid in fines.

The successful appellants were Pui Chai-wing and Chan Kam-hep, each of whom was fined \$1,000 and bound over in \$2,000 for two years by Mr Lawrence Leung at Central last December. Pui was convicted of keeping a brothel in one of the hotel rooms and Chan was convicted of aiding and abetting the keeping.

Pui's grounds of appeal were that the premises in which the alleged offence took place did not in law constitute a brothel; that the evidence of accomplices was uncorroborated in a material particular; that the Magistrate misdirected himself as to the evidence purporting to substantiate Pui's knowledge; that the Magistrate subjected Pui to a detailed cross-examination concerning other rooms in the hotel which formed no part of the subject matter of the charge; and that there was insufficient evidence to found a conviction and Pui was not guilty.

The second appellant's ground was that if Pui was not guilty on any of those grounds of appeal then he was not guilty of aiding and abetting.

Both appellants were represented in the Appeal Court by the Hon. Leo de Almeida Q.C., instructed by Mr H. Caine.

Crown Counsel, Mr D.F. O'Reilly Mayne, informed the Judge of the Crown's attitude at the outset of the hearing.

Europeans Robbed

In the early hours of the morning, Mr C. Astwood of the South China Morning Post, who lived at 127 Waterloo Road, was disturbed by the clatter of loose change falling on the floor.

A thief who made the noise was not a bit perturbed but stooped to pick up the money.

Mr Astwood shouted at him whereupon the burglar fled the house with Mr Astwood's coat and a pair of trousers which had been hanging beside the bed, three bottles of whisky belonging to Mr Clifford, and a gold watch belonging to Miss Rosemary Barton, two other occupants of the house.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

